



# KENT ON SUNDAY

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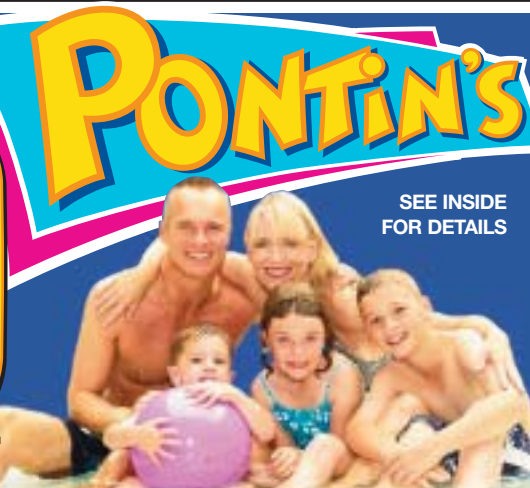
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# SCHOOL PLACES UNDER REVIEW

## Education system under strain as thousands of pupils from other counties take grammar places

PROBLEMS created by a clamour for Kent's grammar school places from out-of-county parents will be tackled in an independent review.

There are currently more than 2,200 non-Kent pupils filling spaces at 'super-selective' schools in the west and north-west of the county, forcing some local children to travel miles out of their way.

Late last year Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter suggested pulling grammar places from east Kent – where there is less demand – and inserting them in the west, but his proposal has so far met resistance from some headteachers.

The independent review, which will be undertaken by recently-retired school adjudicator Jim Brown, has been commissioned by County Hall at the request of cabinet member for education Cllr Sarah Hohler.

She said: "There are sufficient grammar school places in Kent for Kent children, but out-of-county admissions do create pressures

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

on their own. What we want to do is be able to offer a diverse range of choices for children, as well as the best possible education.

"It would be advantageous if every child could go to a school that is near to where they live so they can join in with after-school activities and feel part of the community. It's a very complex issue, which is why we have asked someone with experience to come in and advise."

The number of out-of-county pupils sitting the Kent Test has risen dramatically in the last few years, from 1,232 in 2007, to 2,107 in 2009.

Of the latter figure, 1,019 have been assessed as suitable for grammar school places in September, 2010, with more expected to go through the independent appeals process.

A total of 5,113 children passed the exam last year, although there are only 4,458 places available.

While some grammar schools like Dartford



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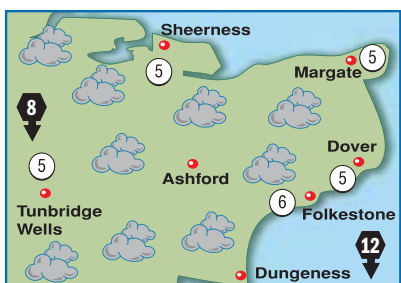
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CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

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## Kent today



**TODAY:** Mostly dry, but generally cloudy with a chance of the odd spot of rain or drizzle later. Remaining cloudy into the evening. Gentle northerly winds. Max temp 3-6C (37-43F). **TONIGHT:** Mostly cloudy with a few spots of rain or drizzle by dawn. Moderate northerly winds. Min temp 0-3C (32-37F).

## Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	sleet	4	39	London	cloudy	6	43
Belfast	cloudy	5	41	Liverpool	cloudy	5	41
Birmingham	cloudy	6	43	Manchester	cloudy	5	41
B'mouth	cloudy	5	41	Newcastle	drizzle	4	39
Bristol	cloudy	5	41	Norwich	cloudy	5	41
Cardiff	fair	7	45	Oxford	cloudy	5	41
Cork	cloudy	6	43	Southsea	cloudy	6	43
Edinburgh	sleet	4	39	S'hampton	cloudy	5	41
Glasgow	cloudy	4	39	Southport	cloudy	5	41
Isle of Man	cloudy	7	45	Swansea	cloudy	6	43
Leeds	cloudy	4	39	Torquay	cloudy	6	43

## Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.46am	Sunset	4.30pm
Moonrise	10.33am	Moonset	2.01am
Lighting up times:		4.30pm to 7.44am	

## High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	04.09 5.8 16.45 5.4	05.18 5.6 18.02 5.3
Margate	05.03 4.2 17.42 3.9	06.07 4.0 19.05 3.9
St Mary's	10.12 4.5 22.48 4.3	11.30 4.3 - -

## Week ahead

<b>monday</b> Wintry flurries max 4C min -2C	<b>thursday</b> Light rain max 6C min 1C
<b>tuesday</b> Sunny spells max 4C min -1C	<b>friday</b> Drizzle later max 6C min 0C
<b>wednesday</b> Turning cloudy max 6C min 0C	<b>saturday</b> Mostly dry max 7C min 1C

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DAVID Cameron vowed to fight violent crime and stop the "social recession" at the launch of his Broken Society campaign in Kent, *writes Marijke Cox.*

The Tory leader addressed community representatives and party activists at a meeting at the Sunlight Centre, Gillingham, on Friday, where he pledged to address the social issues he says are blighting the country.

But while Mr Cameron insisted violent crime was rising, figures released the same day showed that in the year ending September 2009, violent crime in Kent had dropped.

Focusing on the horrific torture of two boys in Doncaster, Mr Cameron stressed that now is the time to face up to "broken Britain".

He said: "It's important to make sure we talk about social issues and breakdown as well as economic issues and breakdown."

Highlighting the Doncaster case, where two young brothers tortured and almost killed two other young boys, he said: "I don't think it's right every time one of these events take place to say that it is just some isolated incident that we should look away from."

"Are we going to do that every time there is a Jamie Bulger or a Baby Peter or a Ben Kinsella or a Gary Newlove or what has happened in Doncaster? We shouldn't, we should ask what has gone wrong with our society and what we're going to do about it."

Mr Cameron admitted the latest police figures show a drop in crime, but stressed that violent crime, involving guns and knives, was rising. However, figures released on the same day as Mr Cameron's visit showed the total number of crimes across the Kent Police area had fallen by 12 per cent.

Violence against the person was down by eight per cent, sexual offences by 12 per cent, and robbery had declined by 20 per cent.

Jonathan Shaw, Labour's South East regional minister, put the drop down to investment by Labour.

The Chatham and Aylesford MP said: "Though every crime committed is terrible for the victim, the evidence clearly shows that Labour investment is working."



**COMMUNITY:** Tory leader David Cameron spoke at the Sunlight Centre, Gillingham

# Cameron: 'We will fix society'

"It's also clearer than ever that the Tories would be a disaster for both, choking off recovery with their irresponsible economic plans and opposing tough action on crime and antisocial behaviour."

But during his meeting, Mr Cameron stressed the need to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour by calling for power to be handed back to authorities, such as teachers and police, rather than focusing on targets.

He claimed that Britain was in a "social recession" and has been for years: "What I believe most profoundly has gone wrong is one simple word and that is 'responsibility'."

"I think we are in danger of becoming an irresponsible society and we need to make Britain a responsible society."

"Consider the fact that we send a signal to couples that you're worse off if you stay together and you're better off if you separate. The signal we send to the single mum who wants to go out and work and earn so that her family's better off - we say we'll take away over 90 per cent of what you earn."

"We have got to change all these signals and we've got to put every single thing we do through a simple filter. If it encourages irresponsibility we shouldn't do it and if it encourages responsibility we should do it."

Another point Mr Cameron focused on was antisocial behaviour and its links to alcohol.

He said a Tory government would put a stop to discounted booze, but ruled out ending 24-hour licensing.

## Review's 'potentially political dynamite'

### CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Girls give priority to local children, others like the Judd School in Tonbridge have been criticised for putting league tables first and accepting only the highest-scoring pupils.

The problem could have a knock-on effect on the four east Kent grammar schools in Folkestone and Dover, who learned this week that admission numbers at all schools in the towns were being looked at separately as part of the Building Schools for the Future programme.

Independent education advisor Peter Read told KOS Media he was pleased with the principal of the KCC review, but "concerned about the outcome".

He explained: "This is the first sign Kent is going to seriously tackle the oversubscription

issues in the west and north-west of the county, but I've had a fear their solution may be to take places away from east Kent."

"One of the reasons for oversubscription is the pressures created by out-of-county pupils, so to create additional places for them by taking places from east Kent would be grossly unfair. This review is potentially political dynamite."

"It will open a whole Pandora's box of issues, not least of which is whether grammar schools should continue in Kent."

Despite Mr Read's concerns, Cllr Hohler stressed at a meeting last Friday that the review was to help KCC improve its admissions policy rather than to help the authority make sweeping changes.

She said: "It's a difficult issue and something

I wish to tackle. It's got nothing to do with selective education. It's about giving parents the best possible choice for their children."

The review will also look at improving the guidance given to parents and primary school heads about the admissions process, as well as the testing arrangements, appeals and quality requirements.

Meanwhile, a proposal to turn a struggling Dartford school into an independently run academy is to go out to public consultation.

Wilmington Enterprise College was placed in special measures for two years ago, but plans are in the pipeline for it to be brought under the control of the Leigh Academies Trust, which oversees Leigh Technology College and Longfield Academy.

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# Chef's cooking up his dream move

By **MARIJKE COX**

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**CELEBRITY** chef John Burton Race has revealed his dreams of moving to the county after helping four Kent restaurants rise to the top.

The Michelin-starred chef, who appeared in the 2007 series of *I'm a Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here*, spoke to Kent on Sunday ahead of the Haiti charity meals he is hosting at Harveys Fish Market and Oyster Bar in Ramsgate, and The Dog Inn at Wingham.

The restaurants are part of Kent Inns of Distinction, run by husband and wife team Richard and Sherry Martin, where Burton Race is employed as consultant chef.

The 52-year-old took on the position in April, 2009, after Mr Martin paid a visit to his Michelin-starred restaurant New Angel in Dartmouth.

Burton Race said: "Richard was looking to find a chef who had expertise to come in and turn things around, and so he spent several months looking to see who could fill the role."

"He came to my restaurant in Dartmouth and after his meal we started chatting and that's where it all started."

Burton Race is now consultant chef for the Ramsgate and Wingham restaurants, plus The Ivyhouse in Tonbridge and The Blazing Donkey in Ham, near Sandwich.

"I've gone in and used my skills to bring out the best," he said.

## Beautiful

"I've had to be harsh and do some hiring and firing, but I know what I'm talking about."

"We've come up with new dishes and made changes to menus – there are a lot of companies going backwards at the moment, but we're going forwards."

Since taking on the job, Harveys has received a coveted AA rosette for its demonstration of culinary excellence.

This weekend, Harveys and The Dog Inn are



**GOOD TASTE:** John Burton Race is the consultant chef for Kent Inns of Distinction

hosting charity dinners to raise money for the Haiti appeal.

Burton Race said: "We thought we'd make some money for the people in Haiti to try and help them after the terrible disaster."

"The idea is to give the lion's share of what we make to the appeal."

For Burton Race, who had a troubled few years after declaring himself bankrupt and walking out on his wife, things are firmly back on track.

He said: "I still have my restaurant in Dartmouth and I do similar work in Plymouth to what I do here in Kent."

"I'm about to start Country House Cooking for ITV as well as Britain's Best Dish and I'm on *Celebrity Quitter* after I gave up smoking. I'm on my way now to

London to do Daily Cook's Challenge with Anthony Worrall Thompson."

He also hinted at something "really big" which is to happen in the near future.

"I'm so busy, but I manage by never being at home and surviving on four hours sleep a night," he said.

Aside from his celebrity lifestyle, Burton Race spends much of his time in Kent working to ensure the restaurants he oversees are a success.

"Working in Kent is exciting," he said. "You never know, I might uproot and plant myself here for good. It's such a beautiful county with stunning countryside. I have a young son and the schools here are good."

Burton Race, who is originally from Singapore, started out as an apprentice chef as a teenager.

He went on to cook and train with Raymond Blanc at Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons in Oxford and then progressed even further, taking over the prestigious Landmark London Hotel and winning two Michelin stars.

He opened his own restaurant aged 26.

In 2005, his Devon eaterie New Angel scooped a Michelin star.

Burton Race said: "Chefs are all mad – you have to be a bit barking to do the job."

"Chefs have no political correctness, which television producers try to change. They're like rock 'n' rollers who live life to the full and are ruled by their egos."

"They work under immense pressure. It's like theatre. The curtains are drawn and you want everything to be perfect – you're only as good as your last meal."

## Police chief on hold

THE Crown Prosecution Service has delayed the expected appointment of Kent Chief Constable Mike Fuller as its new chief inspector.

Mr Fuller was due to be confirmed for the post on Thursday but must now wait another week before it is made official.

His current deputy Adrian Leppard – who this week failed to land the vacant chief constable's job at Norfolk Constabulary – is expected to fill in on a temporary basis until a permanent replacement can be found.

## Murder charge

A WOMAN has been charged with murder after a man was stabbed to death inside a Chatham flat.

Kim Albone, 39, of Luton Road, was arrested on Tuesday and appeared before Chatham magistrates on Friday. She was remanded in custody until February 5.

The body of 66-year-old Antoine Denis, who died from a single stab wound, was found inside a flat at Copperfield House, New Road, at about 10.45pm last Saturday.

Detectives had earlier arrested two men – aged 43 and 69 – but both were released on bail pending further inquiries.

To see this search 'high speed' @ [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)



**South East minister Jonathan Shaw on the benefits for Kent from the new high-speed rail link**

## How trains will cope with 30 per cent passenger rise

FASTER trains with more carriages and better access to London stations are recommended as part of a 30-year strategy for the county.

The Network Rail-led initiative sets out a series of long-term goals to improve services throughout the county, which will experience an estimated 30 per cent increase in passenger numbers by 2022.

Entitled the Route Utilisation Strategy (RUS) for Kent, the document also outlines plans for bigger and better railways to serve parts of East Sussex and south London.

County route director Dave Ward said: "Owing to the high number of trains already running across Kent and East Sussex, there are very few options to run additional services into the capital."

"However, there are opportunities to run longer trains across these routes, which will result in extra seats and reduced congestion for passengers."

"Kent will become the best-connected region in the country to London stations, with services to seven out of the 11 main stations."

Another major scheme set to reshape rail

travel to the capital is Thameslink, which will involve the redevelopment of Blackfriars and London Bridge stations to enable more journey options through the capital.

Commuters travelling from the Tonbridge area to Cannon Street will also benefit from the programme, with Maidstone East also expected to be connected via Bromley South.

There are also recommendations to improve Kent's stations and provide more parking spaces.

## Challenges

Mr Ward said: "There is no doubt we face many challenges to enhance the railway in the coming years, but through a robust strategy we aim to improve journeys in one way or another for as many people as possible."

As well as Network Rail, the RUS process involved a number of local authorities, MPs, government bodies, freight companies and train operators – including Southeastern and Eurostar.

• Visit [www.networkrail.co.uk](http://www.networkrail.co.uk) to download the full report.

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# Fear is protecting the loan sharks



THE victims of loan sharks have been left in so much terror that trading standards officers have failed to secure even one conviction in the past year.

Authorities have blamed fear and intimidation for the lack of people coming forward to testify, despite the launch of the countywide Stop Loan Sharks campaign by Kent Trading Standards and its partners last year.

Ian Treacher, assistant head of the organisation, said this is down to people being too scared to come forward. He also blamed pride, saying people are embarrassed to admit they are in financial trouble.

"If someone is desperate for money they will take desperate measures and that may mean going to a loan shark," he said. "These people don't advertise their services though and are usually found

By **MARIJKE COX**

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through contacts and introductions." But Mr Treacher said his officers are unable to find out this information due to the terror felt by recession-hit borrowers struggling to pay back these high-interest, unsecured debts.

"There is no legal contract and it may seem like a quick way to get money. But because there is no legal contract, the loan sharks use fear and intimidation to ensure they get paid."

Experts say loan sharks add such high interest onto the initial loan the person who has borrowed is eternally indebted to them.

One person who understands the danger of loan sharks is Carol Highton, whose son Brian Shields killed himself after being unable to pay back a crippling debt.

The 22-year-old hanged himself in 2005, after a £300 loan spiralled out of control. Within four months the high interest rate meant he owed £3,400. His case has been used nationwide to warn people of the dangers of illegal money lenders.

Mrs Highton, from Cheshire, said

loan shark Paul Nicholson, who was convicted and jailed in March, 2009, threatened her son with violence and drove him to suicide.

To help others across the UK, she has now set up the Brian Shields Trust, offering confidential advice and support to victims of illegal money lenders.

Mr Treacher said: "If people come forward in Kent then we can get convictions and try and stop the problem."

## Anonymous

"They can come forward anonymously – it's important people know this. It doesn't have to be someone who has borrowed money, if you have suspicions about a loan shark, come forward."

A Kent Savers credit union is currently being set up by Kent County Council to allow people to borrow money more easily. When up and running, it will offer loans of between £500 and £5,000 and target residents who cannot guarantee earnings.

Adrian Davies, interim chief officer, said it will officially be launched to the public on March 1.

Anyone with information about a loan shark can contact Kent Trading Standards on 0300 555 2222 or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Walk around for a different view

THE Turner Contemporary organisation is seeking participants for a group walk in Margate with renowned artist Hamish Fulton.

The walk with Fulton will take place around the marine bathing pool, Margate Sands, between 9am and midday on Wednesday, March 3.

Participants will walk silently around the perimeter wall of the bathing pool seven times to discover the "meditative quality of walking".

A Turner spokesman said: "This is a chance to do something different, meet and walk with an internationally renowned artist who lives in Kent and to contemplate Margate from a different perspective."

To register to take part in the walk, email [info@turnercontemporary.org](mailto:info@turnercontemporary.org) or visit the website [www.turnercontemporary.org](http://www.turnercontemporary.org).

To see this clip search 'gurkha' @ [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)



See Kent's Gurkha soldiers moving a medieval siege engine in the grounds of Dover Castle

## Verdict is due on bank robber killed by police

AN INQUEST jury will tomorrow deliver their verdict on the death of a bank robber who was shot by police.

Robert Haines, 43, a company director from Challock, died shortly after he opened fire on police in a car park at the back of the Nationwide Building Society in New Romney in October, 2006.



INQUEST: Robber Robert Haines

Haines and his gang, which had successfully carried out hold ups across Kent and south east London.

In all the gang got away with £223,000.

Fellow gang member Dean Jenkins told the inquest how Haines opened fire on police even though they warned him they would shoot if he didn't surrender.

Haines was shot three times and died on his way to hospital.

Earlier, officer Echo 19 told how detectives were tipped off that the gang would hit the New Romney branch.

When Haines robbed a security guard inside the building society the armed officers sprang into action.

Echo 19, who was armed with a machine carbine, was confronted by Haines.

The officer said: "I shouted as if my life depended on it.

"He turned round and fired at me. I saw a flash from his hip. He was firing at me and my friends.

"I raised my weapon and fired two shots in quick succession. He didn't fall. I thought he had body armour on so I fired again.

"It was the only way to achieve instant incapacity."

## Thousands watch KCC soap

AN INTERNET soap opera paid for by Kent taxpayers attracted an average audience of just under 10,000 viewers per episode.

The £20,000 Hollywood show – written by former EastEnders scribe Julie Wassmer – was screened over 10 weeks from October 14 on the County Hall funded Kent TV station.

It attracted a total of 97,904 views – an average of 9,790 per episode – and a peak audience of 17,964 for the series finale.

Biographies, interviews and other Holly-

would-related videos took the total number of views up to 130,803.

Cabinet member Cllr Alan Marsh said: "The Hollywood project is a truly innovative approach to communicating with Kent's young adults about really important issues.

"The support this project provides is innovation at its best and shows great initiative."

Meanwhile, cabinet members at Kent County Council are expected to discuss the future of Kent TV at a meeting on February 1.

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# Akai's got to dance

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A 10-year-old schoolboy has become one of the favourites to win Sky1's search for the nation's top amateur dancers.

Akai Osei wowed judges and host Davina McCall when he took to the stage for Got to Dance with a hip-hop and break-dancing routine, performed to Dizzee Rascal's Flex.

Legendary tap-dancer Adam Garcia, Pussycat Dolls star Kimberly Wyatt and Ashley Banjo, leader of street dance crew Diversity, were blown away by his audition.

Banjo, who has been scouring the country with his fellow judges in search of new talent, said: "He's only 10, but he holds the stage. He captured the audience."

Akai is the youngest contestant to be selected for the live semi-finals and will battle it out against other solo performers and dance crews to win £100,000 and the kudos of being one of Britain and Ireland's best dancers.

He has also become a YouTube sensation, with thousands of people going online to check out the tiny dancer's moves.

Akai, from Orpington, told Kent on Sunday how he felt when Banjo came to his school to tell him he had got through.

"I was so happy and got a tingly feeling inside," he said. "I had no idea. I was told they were going to come and film at my



school, but I didn't know I'd been chosen.

"My friends were really excited."

Akai, who taught himself to dance, said he had no problems performing in front of the judges: "I was a bit nervous just before I went on stage, but I knew it would be OK."

The youngster first started dancing when he was six and joined a dance club at nine. He choreographed his own routine for his audition and must now come up with a fresh one for the live semi-finals in February.

But the youngster, who learnt to break-

dance in just three months, is not worried about his task. He said: "I just put music on and listen to the beat and start dancing."

His mum Jenny, 33, who has two other children aged 12 and two, said: "He's always loved dancing – he's really got the moves. He just watches something and then he can do it. We're so proud of him."

Akai must now impress the public to secure enough votes to keep him in the competition. He is up against 17 other dancers ranging from street-style to contemporary.



**SEMI-FINALS:**  
Young Akai Osei found out he was through to the next round of Got to Dance during a visit to his school by judge Ashley Banjo

## Drivers tune into drinking message

THE Christmas drink-driving campaign has been hailed a success after figures revealed fewer arrests than in the previous festive period.

Set to the tune of the carol the 12 Days of Christmas, a 30-second TV and radio commercial was aired throughout December in an attempt to reduce the number of accidents on Kent's roads. And according to figures released this week, it appears to have done the trick.

Kent Police said there were 2,247 motorists breath-tested between December 1 and New Year's Day, with 244 arrested. Last year 1,786 drivers were tested, with 319 arrests.

Insp Paul Sellwood of the roads policing unit

said: "These figures show we have been effective in enforcing the law, and that the public are also listening to the message."

"But the end of the campaign does not mean the end of police vigilance to catch those who continue to flout the law and drink and drive."

"Kent Police takes a zero tolerance approach to drink and drug driving, and Christmas is always one of the busiest times of year for us."

The figures released by the force are in line with what has been reported nationally.

According to the Association of Chief Police Officers, the number of motorists breath-tested during December across the UK increased

by 21.82 per cent – from 183,397 to 223,423.

The number of arrests went down by 16.51 per cent, from 9,148 to 7,638.

However, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents says there are still too many people driving under the influence.

### Stubborn

Head of road safety Kevin Clinton said: "The Christmas figures once again show action is needed to change the behaviour of a stubborn minority who continue to drink and drive despite years of education and enforcement."

"We are pleased the police increased the

number of breath tests because one of the best ways of persuading people not to drink and drive is for them to realise there is a good chance they will get caught if they do."

"If you are caught, the legal consequences can be devastating on your life and livelihood."

"Given the percentage of drivers arrested after a crash, these figures provide more evidence that alcohol and driving do not mix."

Provisional figures show 430 people were killed in drink-drive accidents in 2008.

The campaign – called 'One drink is too much for Christmas' – was launched by Kent Highway Services in partnership with the police.

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# Carter demands council shake-up

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT County Council leader Paul Carter has challenged the main political parties to support plans for a “radical reform” of local government.

Cllr Carter – who also represents 74 local authorities as chairman of South East England Councils – believes massive savings can be made at a national level if the country is split into 46 ‘sub-regions’.

This would not mean current local authorities being scrapped, but neighbouring councils in a sub-region would work more closely together to deliver services.

He says this will eliminate the need for unelected bodies like the South East England Development Agency (Seeda), which is based in Surrey yet is responsible for the economic and social development of an area bigger in size than Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland combined.

Cllr Carter set out his proposals in a paper, Bold Steps for Radical Reform, launched at St Martin-in-the-Fields Church, Trafalgar Square, on Tuesday. He told KOS Media afterwards: “It



**SUB-REGIONS: Cllr Paul Carter proposes radical changes to the organisation of local government**

went really well and there was a general air of endorsement – the vast number of people say ‘bring it on’.

“Local government is the only part of the public sector that delivers the efficiencies imposed upon us, so it’s about time certain unelected groups and quangos let go.

“We need to be free from central Government interference. We’ve got to make public services relevant to the communities they serve and find out where decisions are best made. I believe sub-regional groups need to

come together to influence how the money is split and divided.”

Cllr Carter’s proposals – which he says could save the Government up to £21 billion over a three to five-year period – have already won the backing of shadow local government minister Bob Neill.

The Bromley and Chislehurst Tory MP attended the launch and challenged local government to “demonstrate there is both the capacity and imagination and verve” to take on more responsibilities. He said: “The report emphasises something we need to make the case about constantly – the insidious nature of the quangocracy that has grown up in the UK.”

Despite his support, Mr Neill stressed he could not promise everything in the report would happen under a Conservative government.

However, Cllr Carter told KOS Media he would be “absolutely delighted” if only 50 per cent of the proposals were implemented.

He added: “I’ve already had a meeting with Kent’s 12 district leaders to discuss how we could operate and organise ourselves if we were given extra powers, and that went very well.

“Spending restrictions are going to get pretty severe over the next few years but we can help deliver big savings if we are only given the chance.”



**STATUE: Turner prize winner Mark Wallinger designed the horse**

## Designers to make ‘Angel’ bomb proof

AN ICONIC statue of a horse dubbed the ‘Angel of the South’ is being designed to withstand attacks from terrorists.

Although the £2 million sculpture, which will be located at Ebbsfleet, is more likely to be a target for graffiti and low-level vandalism, designs are being put in place to cover a more large-scale attack.

A planning application submitted by Grendon Design Agency to Gravesham Borough Council, stated that the 160ft-high statue, designed by former Turner prize winner Mark Wallinger, could potentially attract protestors.

Simon Trundle, the company’s managing director, said that if the statue was bombed, the steel-framed structure would

ensure it remained standing.

The report states that protestors are a more likely threat, and CCTV would be put in place.

Ben Ruse, spokesman for the Ebbsfleet Landmark Project Ltd, said part of the planning process was to ensure the horse would stay in good condition.

He said: “It is expected to last for generations, but we don’t want it to be a burden on the local authority or community. The possibility that someone would want to launch an attack on the horse must be looked into, even though this is unlikely.”

Gravesham council has until March to look at plans.

The statue will stand near to Ebbsfleet International Station and will dominate the north Kent landscape.

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**CANCER** campaigner Nicole Dryburgh hopes the sequel to her inspirational first book will give further hope to fellow patients, *writes Steve Knight*.

The 20-year-old from Whitstable was diagnosed with cancer when she was just 11 and has since suffered a brain haemorrhage and a stroke, leaving her wheelchair-bound, blind and virtually deaf.

But despite her predicament, Nicole has devoted her life to helping others and has so far raised more than £130,000 for charity.

Her first book, *The Way I See It*, earned an army of admirers when it was released in 2008, with its sequel – *Talk To The Hand* – covering the hectic months that followed.

Nicole said: "I've only ever had nice comments about *The Way I See It* and I'm really happy people enjoyed reading it. It's been out two years now and I get emails almost every

# Did it turn out all write for Nicole?

day from someone who has read it.

"I decided to write the second book because my first kind of ended on a cliffhanger. I was still on chemotherapy and having other health problems, so I wanted people to know I'm still here and fighting. So much has happened since my first book came out so it's a good way to let people know how things have turned out. It's different because I'm not just telling my story, I'm sharing advice, too."

Nicole was a competition-winning gymnast when, at the age of just 11, an operation

revealed a rare type of tumour close to her spine. Through radiotherapy it was reduced, but two years later she suffered the brain haemorrhage that robbed her of her sight.

This was followed by a debilitating stroke that left the youngster confined to a wheelchair, and in late 2007 tumours were discovered behind Nicole's ears that have destroyed her hearing.

Despite these setbacks, Nicole has devoted her life to helping others and is working with the Teenage Cancer Trust to raise enough



**SECOND BOOK:**  
Nicole Dryburgh

money to fund a specialist unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital, Surrey.

She said: "I enjoy organising events and coming up with different ideas of ways to raise money. I know what these young people are going through and that spurs me on to raise as much money and awareness as I can."

Named Britain's Most Inspiring Fundraiser in 2008, Nicole is a beacon of hope for those affected by illness.

Asked if she had any advice for people, she replied: "Just to stay positive and never give up. I believe a positive attitude can get you through anything. Obviously it can be hard sometimes, but just look to the future and keep smiling."

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## 'Lose weight or die' man sheds 12st

JASON Conners used to be so self-conscious of his size that even at the height of summer he would wear a coat.

Despite playing football for a Deal Sunday league team and working out in the gym, his weight ballooned to 27 and a half stone and he was told he only had five years to live.

Jason didn't want to die young and miss seeing his family grow up, so decided to have a gastric bypass with specialists Streamline Surgical and has since lost an amazing 12 stone and 18 inches off his waist.

Jason had been big for as long as he could remember due to a slow metabolism. He hated the stares and comments people would make and says he was definitely treated differently because of his weight. He tried everything but nothing would shift it.

"Diets and pills just didn't work," he said. "I



**NEXT GENERATION:** Jason Conners wanted to live to see his family grow

needed a more permanent solution. I have three granddaughters and want to see them grow up. I went to my GP and was referred to

Streamline Surgical's Shaw Somers, who has given me my life back. I cannot express the esteem I hold him in. I had trouble getting the treatment sorted, even though my GP had approved it, and finally I was referred to a hospital in Chichester where Shaw worked. I knew I had the number one in the field.

"When you have been large from an early age the stares and remarks become just a part of life. So it's nice to be able to walk through town without attracting a second glance."

"The procedure shrunk my stomach to the size of a chicken's egg. All I could eat was slop – but it filled me up and I didn't feel hungry."

"I knew I had a choice – drastic surgery or very little chance of a proper life – in fact an imminent death. I made the right choice."

For an interview with Jason, go to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk).

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# Keeping sickness at bay

OVERNIGHT hospital stays for elderly people could be cut by up to half by using community projects to help keep sickness at bay, *writes Marijke Cox.*

And accident and emergency attendances could be slashed by a third if preventative measures are used in older people's healthcare. The findings were revealed by Dr Karen Windle of the University of Kent, who conducted a study into a new Department of Health programme that looks at improving health services for over-65s.

The scheme, known as the Partnership for Older People Project (POPP), looks to use simple everyday activities, such as lunch clubs and community groups, to help prevent hospital and institutional care, and the need for carers to visit patients' homes. Experts believe the measures reduce isolation and promote wellbeing. In 2005, when the project was launched, 29 local authorities, including Kent County Council, signed up.

It was piloted in Eastern and Coastal Kent using the health and voluntary sectors to ensure older people could retain independence and improve their quality of life through low-level services.

Dr Windle, senior research fellow at the Personal Social Services Research Unit at the university, said in some cases this could be as simple as attending an exercise club.

"Individual cases are different, but it's really down to early intervention and prevention," she said. "This could be things like help with shopping or having a handrail put in your house. Clubs and voluntary groups also help ensure older people are not isolated in the community. In one case there was an elderly lady who had not been seen for a while.

"A case co-ordinator went to see her and found she was mourning the loss of her dog. She was taken to an animal shelter where she got another dog and was soon out and about again. It's simple things like this that



really help improve well-being."

More complex initiatives such as hospital discharge and rapid-response services were also used in the pilot. Research at the university found the scheme resulted in significant financial savings due to the reduction in emergency bed days.

With every £1 spent on POPP services there was an extra £1.20 saved. Savings were also made through the reduction in physiotherapy and occupational therapy as well as outpatient and clinic appointments.

Dr Windle said: "Although some cases are more complex than others, this is a sustainable approach towards helping the wellbeing and health of elderly people.

"It is possible that even greater value could be secured over the longer term as new projects learn from their experience and general expertise and confidence grows."

In total, 522 organisations in the UK were involved across the programme, including PCTs, housing trusts, voluntary organisations, the police, and private sector firms.

Dr Windle presented her findings on the pilot scheme to health secretary Andy

Burnham, care services minister Phil Hope and David Behan, director general of social care, local government and care partnerships at the Department of Health. Mr Burnham said the scheme would now be launched nationwide.

"With more people over 65 than under 18 and increasing pressure on services, we need a new approach to the care and support system that is fair, simple and affordable," he said. "We are overhauling the care and support system. Prevention, early intervention and integration of services are all fundamental principles to that reform and our vision to create a National Care Service.

"But we shouldn't wait to take action to improve the lives of older people. That is why we have introduced our Personal Care at Home Bill which will give free support to those in need. If local NHS and social care services work together to invest in prevention and early intervention, we can cut costs and improve older people's quality of life."



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## Hazardous roads

CRASH victims are being asked to take part in a new campaign to highlight the dangers faced by young road-users.

The Kent Highways initiative – called Ghostlids – wants teenage motorcyclists aged 16 to 19 to share their stories with other young riders.

Road safety officer Tom Morton said: "In Kent in the past five years 799 teenagers have been injured on mopeds or motorbikes, of which 124 were either killed or seriously injured. We want to get the message out about the hazards through those who have been directly affected by a crash."

Call Mr Morton on 07740 185361 or email [tom.morton@kent.gov.uk](mailto:tom.morton@kent.gov.uk).

## Animation award

ANIMATORS who created the video for Coldplay's Strawberry Swing have been nominated for an award.

Gideon Baws, Jason Groves, Chris Harding and Richard Kenworth – collectively known as Shynola – met at the Kent Institute of Art and Design, now the University for the Creative Arts (UCA). The group has been nominated in the British Animation Awards public choice category for best music video. It will be screened at UCA's Maidstone campus on February 15.

## Dredge up a tale

ROMAN pots dredged up off the Kent coast will feature in a national project telling the story of the world through museum objects.

The artefacts will form part of the History of the World initiative, run by the British Museum in partnership with the BBC and more than 350 museums across the UK.

The pots are kept at Canterbury museum, which is leading the project in Kent.

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## CASE STUDY

### Sex attacker locked up

A RAPIST who sexually assaulted a young mother was caged eight years after his savage attack following an investigation by Kent's cold case detectives.

Kelvin Clyde Bennett was jailed for 12 years in 2008 for the rape and kidnap of a 21-year-old woman in Folkestone.

The 45-year-old had grabbed her as she walked home from a nightclub in December 2000.

She had briefly stopped to make a call to her boyfriend when he launched his attack.

Bennett drove his victim to several secluded locations and raped her three times while threatening to kill her

before then dumping her in a country lane.

The former customs officer was arrested in February 2008 while living in London.

The Cold Case Team had matched DNA samples, taken in connection of another offence, against those taken from the rape victim in 2000.



CAUGHT: Kelvin Clyde Bennett has been jailed

# Time to catch the criminals who thought they had got away with it

By **MARIJKE COX**

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CRIMINALS who think they have quite literally got away with murder could soon be getting an unexpected knock at their door.

And rapists who long ago breathed a sigh of relief for avoiding arrest for their brutal

crime should start looking over their shoulder again.

For Kent Police's Cold Case Investigation Team, which celebrates its two-year anniversary this year, is cracking down on unsolved murders dating back 50 years, and stranger rapes from 30 years.

Not only does it mean dangerous criminals are taken off the county's streets, but families suffering the loss of a loved one, or rape victims struggling to move on, can get justice.

Det Chief Insp Dave Withers, who heads

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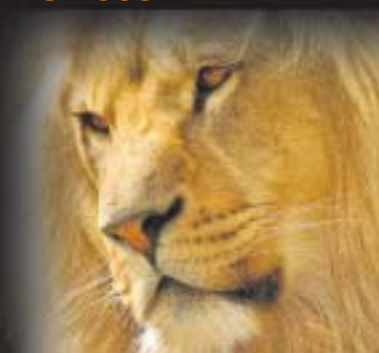
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**ON THE CASE:**  
Det Chief Insp  
Dave Withers is  
following the  
DNA trail



up the six-strong team in Chatham, said progression in forensic science has led to a number of cases being solved.

"Just because something could not be detected 15 or 20 years ago doesn't mean it can't be detected now," he said.

"In the case of murder there are relatives who want answers and closure and we have a duty to them, as well as to the victims who had a right to life which was taken away.

"The person responsible might still be offending and we need to protect the public."

One example of their success was the investigation into the murder of Evelyn Staples, whose body was found in Boxley, near Maidstone, in 1987. Her killer was identified more than 20 years later thanks to developments in DNA profiling.

The murderer had since died, but the victim's son was able to find out who his mother's killer was.

DCI Withers said: "It really is rewarding when we get a success.

"We don't contact a victim or a victim's family until we have identified an offender. We wouldn't want to raise their hopes or resurrect old memories for no reason.

"It's not easy to go back to someone after 20 years and for them to have to relive the fear of something they might have put to the back of their minds for a long time."

Kent is one of the first forces in the UK to set up a Cold Case Investigation Team, made

up of DCI Withers, three detective constables and two investigating officers, who are retired detectives.

In the past, unsolved murders and rape would be dealt with by the Major Crime unit on top of their other cases.

But due to the big workload, some older cases slowed or stopped and so Kent Police set up a team to specialise in cold cases.

Work with these cases begins at Maidstone's headquarters with the Serious Case Review Team, which looks into unsolved murders and rapes.

Head of the team Dave Stevens, a former detective superintendent, explained how the system works: "We go through all of the exhibits using up-to-date forensic science tests which in the past we didn't have.

"If we get a full DNA profile for a murder or rape or identify a new lead, we then hand it on to the Cold Case Investigation Team."

Mr Stevens said DNA profiling has revolutionised investigations: "We can get DNA from things we couldn't ten years ago.

"We compare samples against a national database and we also have a database of DNA taken from crime scenes, so we can link one offender to more than one crime."

DNA was first used in the late 1980s when blood or semen was needed to build a profile.

At the start of the new millennium advances meant experts could extract DNA from microscopic quantities.

# Old boys booked

SKINNERS' old boys have joined forces to support a charity that donates books to schoolchildren in Africa.

The charity READ International was launched in 2004 when a group of university students, who were shocked when they saw the lack of resources in Tanzanian schools during their gap year, decided to do something about it.

Robert Wilson, who went to the Skinners' School in Tunbridge Wells from 1994 to 2001, founded the charity.

He said: "We felt compelled to act and began by contacting our local secondary schools and collecting books to send to Tanzania.

"The book project has gone from strength to strength with more and more universities coming on board each year. We now have 22

book projects across the UK, and have shipped over half a million books to Tanzania."

At a recent school reunion he met another old Leopard David Fry, who went to Skinners' between 1985 and 1992.

Mr Fry, now a UK and European attorney at Agile IP LLP, was inspired by Mr Wilson's story. "Rob's story was incredibly inspiring so I volunteered to organise trade mark protection, through my company Agile," he said.

"The European application is currently going through. It felt great to be helping out on a professional level; we will happily provide the same service to the charity for many years in the future. I am also currently seeking attorneys in Tanzania who will also provide their services for free." For more information visit [www.readinternational.org.uk](http://www.readinternational.org.uk).

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## CASE STUDY

### Murder investigation

THE brutal murders of two young women more than 20 years ago are currently being reviewed by the Cold Case Investigation Team.

Wendy Knell, 26, was found dead at her bedsit in Tunbridge Wells in June 1987. She had been sexually assaulted and battered to death.

Her distraught parents said they are determined to catch their daughter's killer.

The body of Caroline Pierce, 20, who also lived in Tunbridge Wells, was found six months later in December 1987 on Romney Marsh, three weeks after going missing. She too had been sexually assaulted and brutally murdered. After police



**VICTIMS:** Wendy Knell, left, and Caroline Pierce were murdered by the same man

re-opened the investigation, the cold case team have DNA which they believe is from the offender and are currently taking DNA samples from people who are of interest to the inquiry to try and find a match.

So far they have eliminated more than 500 people and are continuing with this work.

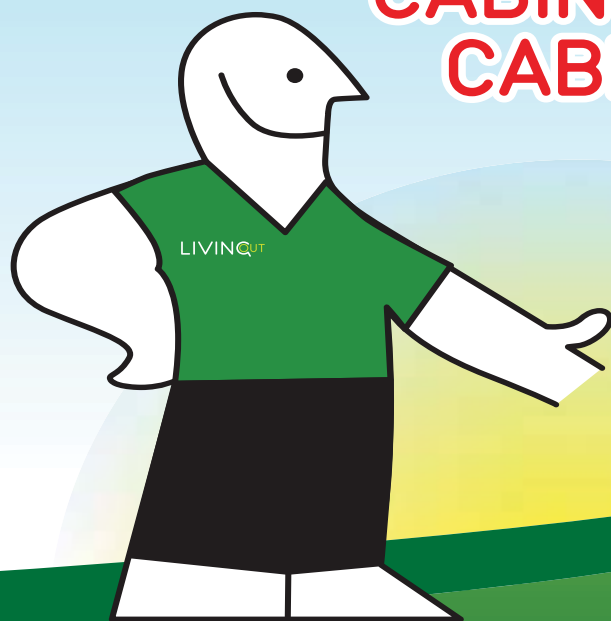
DCI Dave Withers added: "With the Wendy Knell case, her parents want to do anything they can to catch their daughter's killer. They cannot rest until the killer is found."

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TRAGIC: The German concentration camp at Wobbelin, when it was liberated by the US Ninth Army

# Bela's lessons from the past

Concentration camp survivor talks to pupils

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

**BELA** Rosenthal was just six months old when she was taken prisoner by the Nazis.

Her Jewish father had already been killed at the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in 1942, and her mother's death was soon to follow when she was struck down with TB.

Orphaned at just two years old, Bela was released from the Theresienstadt concentration camp when the Red Cross took it over from the Nazis at the end of World War Two in 1945.

Despite having little memory of the Holocaust, where six million Jews were murdered by the Nazis, Bela – now Joanna Millan – has clear memories of her childhood.

And to bring home the terrifying realities and pay respect to those who died, the mother-of-three has given her poignant account to Kent schoolchildren at St John's Catholic School in Gravesend.

## Memorial Day

Her talk forms part of Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27.

This year's theme is 'The Legacy of Hope' which encourages young people to learn from survivors' experiences.

Mrs Millan, who lives in London, is using her own experience to push home the message about racism and tolerance across to youngsters.

She said: "You think children are protected from these issues, but they understand a lot more than people think."

The 67-year-old, who has eight grandchildren, managed to survive in the Theresienstadt camp – 50 miles outside of Prague – thanks to a lady called Litska Shallerger.

Knowing the food in the concentration camp was contaminated, Litska would collect vegetables and hide them under her clothes so she could feed the young girl.

On May 3, 1945, the Red Cross took over the camp and Bela was freed, but she was not to return to her home in Berlin.

"My first memory was being put in a house by the Russians while they decided what would happen to us," she said.

"The British government said it would take up to 1,000 children, but they took 300 in the end.

"I remember being on a plane, going to Britain. It was very scary – we all knew that anyone leaving the camp didn't usually come back.

"I was flown with five other surviving orphans – it was a very confusing time.

"There was no family for me in Britain so I was put in a children's home."

The youngster was eventually adopted by a wealthy Jewish couple in London who changed her name to Joanna.

Mrs Millan said: "It was a scary time – for a while I didn't ever know what was going on.

"My adoptive parents didn't have any children so they took me on as their own daughter and changed my name to one less Jewish-sounding.

"They also told me to keep quiet about being Jewish.

"I suppose even now I am discreet about it just because I always had to be. I don't bring it up unless somebody asks."

But Mrs Millan said she found it hard hiding her identity over the years.

"I had to pretend to be something I wasn't which was difficult for a child," she said.

"I didn't really find my identity and I found that forming relationships was very hard. I also became very independent because I had been in the camp without supervision.

"I felt I had nothing in common with people in England and I had a lack of trust in people."

Eight years ago Mrs Millan, who is chairman of the Holocaust Survivors Association, married a Jewish man and continues to have a close relationship with her children and grandchildren.

"I think I've tried to compensate for what I missed out on," she added.

This year, Holocaust Memorial Day commemorates the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Colm Murphy, a teacher at St John's Catholic Comprehensive School, said it was a privilege to welcome Mrs Millan to the school.

"We hope that by hearing Joanna's testimony it will encourage our students to learn from the lessons of the Holocaust and make a positive difference in their own lives," he said.

Karen Pollock, chief executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust, which organised the visit, added: "Joanna's story is one of tremendous courage during the horrific circumstances.

"By hearing her testimony, St John's Catholic School's students will have the opportunity to learn where hate and racism can ultimately lead."



IDENTITY: Bela is now known as Joanna Millan



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**NOMINATED:** Pixie Lott is in the running to win three Brit Awards

## Pixie's the pick for Brit Awards

POP star Pixie Lott could be in for a successful Brit Awards after being nominated in three different categories.

The Bromley-born star – whose first two singles went straight to number one – is up for British female solo artist, British breakthrough act, and British single for Mama Do.

But the 19-year-old faces stiff competition in her bid to clinch an award, with Leona Lewis, Lily Allen, JLS and Cheryl Cole among the other hopefuls.

Last November Lott picked up two gongs – Best Push Artist and Best UK and Ireland New Act – at the MTV Europe Music Awards in Berlin, Germany.

The 30th anniversary of the Brits takes place at London's Earls Court Arena on Tuesday, February 16.

# Road safety drive to save children's lives

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

**MOTORISTS** are to be reschooled in road safety as part of a month-long campaign to reduce the number of child deaths in Kent.

Police will visit 40 accident black spots to give advice to drivers about the importance of driving safely, while the 'stop, look and listen' method of crossing the road will be hammered home to pupils.

Officers hope the operation will lead to a reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured on Kent's roads, which in 2008 stood at 87.

A further 570 received 'slight' injuries.

### Concerns

Acting Chief Insp Preston Chalk said the campaign came about as part of the You Said, We Did initiative, which promotes police following up on residents' concerns.

He said: "It's crucial that children are taught about road safety from a young age.

"They're often very frantic and enjoy running about, but it's important they know they can't always be like that when they're not in school.

"We hope this campaign will allow children to reflect on the consequences of running in

## Foliage trimming to make signs clear

KENT Highway Services has begun a six-week campaign to cutback trees and bushes covering road signs.

Work started on Monday and should be completed by the end of February – before the bird-nesting season.

Kent County Council cabinet member for environment, highways and waste Cllr Nick

Chard said: "We are clearing overhanging branches and vegetation around road signs to make our roads and pavements safer for all those who use them.

"We are doing this important work in January and February so birds are not disturbed while they nest."

Crews in Shepway, Ashford,

Swale, Thanet, Maidstone and Sevenoaks, will initially concentrating on main routes and known problem areas, before moving on to secondary routes, depending on the time and budget available.

• **Anyone wanting to report a problem with overgrown vegetation can call 08458 247 800.**

the road and the impact it would have on their parents, friends and teachers if something terrible were to happen to them.

"Thankfully the schools are already working hard to promote this issue, as do the majority of parents, so we are just enforcing the message."

The campaign – launched in partnership with Medway Council's road safety team, Kent Highway Services and other partner agencies – was launched at Senacre Wood Primary School, Maidstone, on Monday.

According to Chief Insp Chalk, children are at greater risk during the autumn and winter months because of the extended periods of darkness before and after school.

The 40 destinations visited by officers over

the next month are all within the vicinity of schools and identified statistically as having high casualty rates.

As well as distributing safety fliers to pupils and parents, enforcement teams will also be clamping down on motorists caught speeding, not wearing seatbelts, using mobile telephones and driving while under the influence of drink and drugs.

Chief Insp Chalk said: "For the children it's all about the basic safety message of stop, look, listen and find a safe place to cross.

"But when it comes to the adults, we know there will always be a small core of people who will break the law no matter what we do.

"That's why we'll be carrying out enforcement work as well as educational work."

## Murderer's appeal quashed

THE homeless drifter jailed for strangling a 17-year-old girl in Tunbridge Wells and hiding her body in a suitcase has lost an appeal against his murder conviction.

Philip Bell, 24, who was found guilty of murdering Terry Edmonds after a third trial, lost his case at the Court of Appeal in London on Tuesday.

Det Chief Insp Dave Withers of Kent Police said: "We are pleased with the decision.

"We worked very closely with the Crown Prosecution Service to bring this case before the court, and presented evidence at three trials.

"We were confident we had a compelling case and our thoughts today are again with Terry's family and friends who have been through a very difficult ordeal."

He said Miss Edmonds' family was "very

pleased" that the conviction was upheld.

Bell, who was sentenced to a minimum of 28 years in February last year after escaping conviction at two previous trials, was described by the judge as "an evil man, who seems to have no conscience".

At the unusual third trial, Judge Andrew Patience QC told the former removal man: "As the police net closed around you, you lied and lied again to escape responsibility for what you had done."

Miss Edmonds was missing for 12 days in April, 2006, before her body was found in a green suitcase in a supermarket car park stairwell, next to Tunbridge Wells railway station, where Bell was living rough.

She had been sexually assaulted and strangled with her own scarf.



**VICTIM: Teenager Terry Edmonds**

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By **TOM BETTS**

tom.betts@kosmedia.co.uk

THE redevelopment of the Pleasurama site in Ramsgate will not be delayed by the collapse of part of the cliff façade, Thanet council has assured residents.

The long-running saga of the spot beneath the East Cliff, which has been derelict since a fire in 1997, seemed to be drawing to a conclusion in 2003 with the granting of planning permission for a 60-room hotel, seven shops and one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments.

More than six years on, however, residents are still waiting for the planned Royal Sands complex to surface from the piles of rubble and weeds making the site an eyesore.

It had been hoped local company Cardy Construction, which has won the contract with developer SFP Ventures, would begin work on the project this year, but now part of the concrete façade has collapsed, leaving a hole measuring about eight metres by three.

Michael Child, a shop-owner who has been blogging on the subject for years, said: "The cliff seems to be in a terrible state and parts of it have collapsed."

"I am not convinced the project can go forward when it is in such a bad way. Cracks and holes have appeared and it is just not good enough either to build the development next to it or to support the main access road to it."

However, a spokeswoman for Thanet council, which struck the deal with SFP for the Royal Sands development, said: "There is no reason to believe it has further implications for the stability of the cliff façade or cliff-face as a whole. This blockwork panel is not a load-bearing part of the structure."

The cliff-wall part of the project has already cost Thanet council £985,000. It is thought the latest problem will add £15,000 to that figure. Walker Construction carried out refurbishment work in 2007, but the appearance of the hole led to the whole panel being taken down to be rebuilt by contractors.

The spokeswoman said: "The defect was not present at the time of the 2007 refurbishment. It was caused by a defect in the 1930s blockwork panel."

"It is a relatively minor repair and will be completed within the next two weeks and will not delay the main development work."

Cardy boss Michael Stannard said: "Clearly we want to get on with the project, but will be seeking assurances from Thanet council that the public, as well as our staff, are not at any risk now or in the future."

# Cliff wall work 'will not delay redevelopment of Royal Sands'



**BIG HOLE:** Repairs to the façade panel will be made in the next few weeks

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# Pupils give whole new meaning to snail's pace

JENSON Button would have trouble getting behind the steering wheel, but that didn't stop a team of young race fans building the fastest compressed-air powered racing car in the UK.

Ironically, the team called themselves the Speeding Snails.

The youngsters from Wilmington Grammar School in Dartford, took the Fastest Car Award in the Bloodhound SSC Class at the UK final of the Formula One in Schools Technology Challenge held in Birmingham.

Using some of the very latest in design and build technology, they put together a car which is restricted to just 15cm long.

It has to carry a tiny compressed-air tank that is filled to capacity before a race on a 20-metre track.

The speeds are phenomenal and the winning car covered the distance in just 0.620 seconds.



**FAST LEARNERS:** (l-r) Speeding Snails team, Erik Meilak, Mitchell Bambridge, Darryl Tripp, Jack Keech and Josh Fleming with their title-winning compressed-air powered car

The Kent team also took runner-up spot in their age category.

The Snails are made up of Erik Meilak, Mitchell Bambridge, Darryl Tripp, Jack



Keech and Josh Fleming, who are all 14.

They worked tirelessly over the last six months for the competition.

Their car started out as a solid block of balsa wood which was placed in a high-tech machine that carved the shape of the racer based on a computer-aided design crafted by the students.

Some even put them through tests in a miniature wind tunnel using hairdryers.

Erik Meilak, team manager of the Snails, said: "Our car is very light – it weighs less than nine grams – less than the weight of the

axle and wheels of the car we raced at the regional finals.

"Our car was the only one which had very small, carbon fibre wheels and I think that is also a big factor in the speed we achieved – just 0.620 seconds for the 20 metres track."

And chairman and founder of F1 in Schools, Andrew Denford, added: "The Speeding Snails showed great initiative in their approach to the car design and produced a unique, and ultimately very quick, race car."

"The work they have put in to their entry was excellent and I'm delighted they had this success at the UK finals."

F1 in Schools will help change perceptions of engineering, science and technology by creating a fun and exciting learning environment for young people to develop an informed view about careers in mathematics, engineering, science and technology.

# Police anti-protest claims denied

KENT'S Chief Constable Mike Fuller has spoken out against accusations he undermined the public's right to protest at Kingsnorth power station.

Speaking exclusively to KOS Media, Mr Fuller denied claims made in the Guardian newspaper that he strayed from his duty to 'neutrally facilitate' peaceful protests when he advised the energy firm E.ON to take greater steps to disrupt any future activity on the site.

The accusations relate to an incident in October, 2007, when six Greenpeace activists scaled a 200m smokestack to protest against plans for a new coal-fired power station, causing more than £30,000 damage.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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Mr Fuller has been criticised for suggesting in a subsequent letter to E.ON that the German firm should seek "legal remedies" – including High Court injunctions – to scupper such demonstrations in the future.

## Excessive

But he told KOS Media the advice was issued to the company in response to specific concerns about security at the site.

He said: "The company was treated in exactly the same way as any victim of crime, namely we provided it with the requested advice about security. Kent Police has a public duty to

inform all organisations about any threat to their premises.

"The letter is clearly advising E.ON to improve security to prevent further trespass at a site where there is the possibility of death or serious injury to anyone entering illegally."

"As chief constable I have a duty to the taxpayers of Kent to avoid excessive policing costs wherever possible, and that was what the letter was seeking to do by suggesting possible solutions to E.ON."

Nicknamed the Kingsnorth Six, the Greenpeace activists were all spared jail in September, 2008, when they managed to convince a crown court jury that the damage they caused was justified in the context of the potential damage caused to the environment by carbon dioxide emissions from any new power station.

E.ON said at the time it was concerned other protestors would see the verdict as permission for them to break in and damage important power plants.

Mr Fuller's letter to the company – which was sent about eight months before the trial – states that his counter-terrorism security advisors could help the firm improve site security, and that it was "grossly inappropriate" for Kent taxpayers to foot the bill for any of its shortcomings.

He told KOS Media: "We have not attempted to make any secret of the letter and it is available for the public to read on our website. It also specifically acknowledges Greenpeace's right to carry out lawful protest."

"Kent Police has always been completely impartial about legal protests and, as the Chief Constable of Kent, I have never



**ACCUSED:** Chief Constable Mike Fuller denies claims Kent Police were overzealous

strayed from my duty to remain impartial when policing demonstrations."

The accusations levelled at Mr Fuller represent yet more negativity surrounding the way the force has handled environmental protests at Kingsnorth.

Last week Kent Police admitted using stop-and-search powers illegally at the infamous Climate Camp demonstration in summer 2008.

Politicians, protestors and academics involved in the rally have always claimed the police response was disproportionate to the threat posed by the activists.

## Putting women on the right track

RAIL chiefs are appealing for more women to sign up to its award-winning apprenticeship scheme for railway engineers.

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**INSPIRED:**  
Illustrator  
Cheryl Ives  
and author  
Robert Hume,  
and their  
subject,  
Thomas  
Crapper (right)



# History book is ideal toilet read

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A HISTORY teacher used his pupils' obsession with all things toilet-related as the inspiration for a new book on 19th century plumber Thomas Crapper.

Wrongly regarded by many as the man who invented the flushing lavatory, the former Bromley resident did play a huge role in its evolution and also ran the world's first bathroom showroom.

Robert Hume – head of history at Clarendon House Grammar School in Ramsgate – said his book pays tribute to Crapper's contributions to sanitation.

He said: "My classes seem to have an unhealthy interest in toilets, whether it's the Roman toilets they had on Hadrian's Wall or the medieval method of people dumping their poo straight into the Thames."

"They have an insatiable appetite for toilets, so who better a person to write about than Thomas Crapper?"

"He played a very important role in history, although not for the reasons most people think. He didn't invent the flushing toilet but he did improve and market it."

"He was also the first person to open a bathroom showroom where people could not only look at toilets but come in and sit on them, which was unheard of at the time and shocked some people."

Born on September 28, 1836, Crapper launched a plumbing company and registered nine patents – three of which were for water closet improvements such as the floating ballcock.

In the 1880s he received his first Royal Warrant from Prince Edward for fitting cedar wood seats and enclosures on 30 toilets at Sandringham House, with two more coming his way in later years.

Crapper lived in Anerley, in Bromley, at the time of his death



aged 73, and was laid to rest at Beckenham Crematorium and Cemetery – as were Mr Hume's grand and great-grandparents.

His book, *Thomas Crapper – Lavatory Legend*, also features illustrations by Canterbury artist Cheryl Ives.

Mr Hume said: "Cheryl always gets her friends and family to pose for the illustrations, so I think she had a lot of fun with this book."

*Lavatory Legend* is the latest in a series of books written by the Broadstairs resident, who has been head of history at Clarendon House for 22 years.

Among the historical figures covered are black civil rights campaigner Olaudah Equiano, 15th century pretender to the throne Perkin Warbeck, and Dr Joseph Bell – the man Arthur Conan Doyle based his Sherlock Holmes character on.

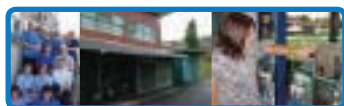
Mr Hume said: "The thing all these men have in common is that they are on the fringes of history."

"They've not been done to death, but they deserve to be recognised."

• **Thomas Crapper – Lavatory Legend is priced at £6.99, see [www.stonepublishinghouse.com](http://www.stonepublishinghouse.com).**

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# Teaching at the nearest opportunity

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

**SNOW-bound teachers could be forced to go to another school if they are not able to reach their usual classrooms.**

Some Kent county councillors are angry so many school shut down completely in the recent heavy snows, just as many students were preparing for their GCSE exams.

A lack of gritting was blamed for some of the problems by Lib Dem leader Cllr Trudi Dean. She asked that areas around secondary schools are taken more into account when it came to gritting.

"This could be down to a lack of communication," said Cllr Dean, who is also a primary school governor.

## Closures

A report to Kent County Council's children, families and education committee was told Kent lost 675 full days of teaching in the week of snow.

Education chiefs have agreed to look at the possibility of setting in stone a policy of sending trapped teachers to their nearest school.

Tory member Cllr Sarah Hohler is the KCC cabinet member for children's services, and admitted she is concerned about the number of closures.

## Proposals to keep schools open on snow days

She said she had seen some schools that couldn't open as they had drives covered in ice.

Cllr Hohler told the meeting: "We do think we need to review our strategy on snow and in particular look to see, not just where the pupils live, but also where the teachers live, because in some cases it may be possible for teachers to go to a school that is not their own school to make sure those children have got cover."

"If a teacher lives much nearer another school that would be quite interesting for the teacher, but it would also mean children have a school to go to."

She also praised some parents for helping and carrying out essential work to keep schools open where possible.

John Walder, the National Union of Teachers division secretary for Kent, said: "It can be a good idea and equally a bad one, too."

"If you are a primary school teacher used to dealing with five-year-olds and find yourself in

front of a rowdy bunch of secondary school students, you may not be much use.

"This is an idea that goes back to the time when I started teaching in 1968, so is hardly new."

"So long as the teacher who presents himself at a school can be fully verified to be genuine, then sometimes they can be a help for a day or so."

Find more news and sport updated daily online  
www.kentnews.co.uk

## Brave tot saves pregnant mum

A FOUR-year-old girl has been praised by paramedics after coming to the aid of her heavily pregnant mum.

Youngster Paris Ditch raised the alarm, when mother Laura – who was 36 weeks pregnant at the time – suffered an epileptic fit at their Gillingham home last month.

Paris, who has never been alone when Laura has previously suffered an episode, rushed to her mum's aid and attempted to break her fall.

She then called her grandmother, Karen Ditch.

Medway paramedic Ken Wallace, who responded to the emergency, said: "This clearly highlights how important it is for parents to teach their children what they need to do in an emergency."

Laura gave birth to a baby boy, Tyrese, a week later.



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• All other terms and conditions are as per 2010 Pontin's brochure or visit www.pontins.com/mediaterms.



LONG WAY TO GO: The Buskateers are on a charity dash to the World Cup in South Africa on a 1966 Routemaster bus, where they hope to see Wayne Rooney shoot England to glory



# On Route 66 for the World Cup

SHUNNING the more traditional and comfortable methods of transport, a group of Kent fans are taking a double-decker red bus to South Africa for the World Cup, **writes Chris Murphy.**

It would have been far easier to book some plane tickets, but this hardy group is doing it for a worthy cause – to raise a substantial sum for the lifeboats and a children's hospital.

The iconic vehicle will wind its way from Kent to the southern tip of Africa in time for the football tournament this summer.

Fans, including two from an RNLI lifeboat station, are teaming up for the trip of a lifetime.

And it's not like the trip is cheap.

They are paying £3,000 each to fund the journey on the 1966 Routemaster bus, leaving in April for the 10,500-mile trip to Cape Town.

## Buskateers

Sleeping on the bus, handing out football shirts from English clubs to children in other countries, and playing the occasional game are all part of the fun, said the organisers.

But the trip by the Buskateers will raise the profile of both the RNLI, the charity that saves lives at sea, and Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children.

On board will be Dave Wimble, 43, and Danny Crawley, 36, from Littlestone-on-Sea lifeboat station.

Dave, an Arsenal supporter who works in the entertainment business, used to be a mechanic at Tower lifeboat station on the

River Thames, and he will be repairing the bus if it breaks down.

Danny, a former Royal Marine, is a diesel fitter and his expertise could also be required for maintenance of the bus.

Dave said: "This journey should be great fun – but we do have a serious message.

"Both the RNLI and the Great Ormond Street Hospital save lives, and sometimes our 'shouts' off the coast here involve saving children."

Charlie Davies, the lifeboat operations manager at Littlestone, added: "We are getting used to novel ways of raising money for the RNLI – there was a sandcastle competition with 1,600 sandcastles at Littlestone.

"Now we have crew on board a bus to the World Cup. Let's hope that England win the World Cup and the Buskateers bring in lots of money for the RNLI to help our volunteer crews to continue to save lives at sea 365 days a year, 24 hours a day."

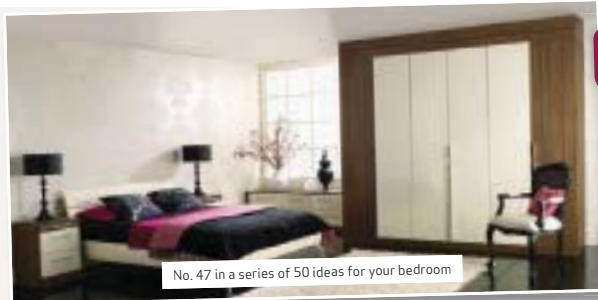
Those on board will be updating podcasts and also be writing a book, plus even producing a short film about the experience.

One of the team, 52-year-old Martin Davis, will perform a one-man comedy show in South Africa based on the trip.

They are seeking sponsors who will pay for their names to be on the side of the eye-catching old bus which will go through up to 20 countries en route to the World Cup finals.

• **Anyone who would like to join the team, or help with fundraising is asked to email davidwimble@alliedbroadcast.co.uk or call 01797 362000.**

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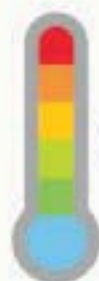
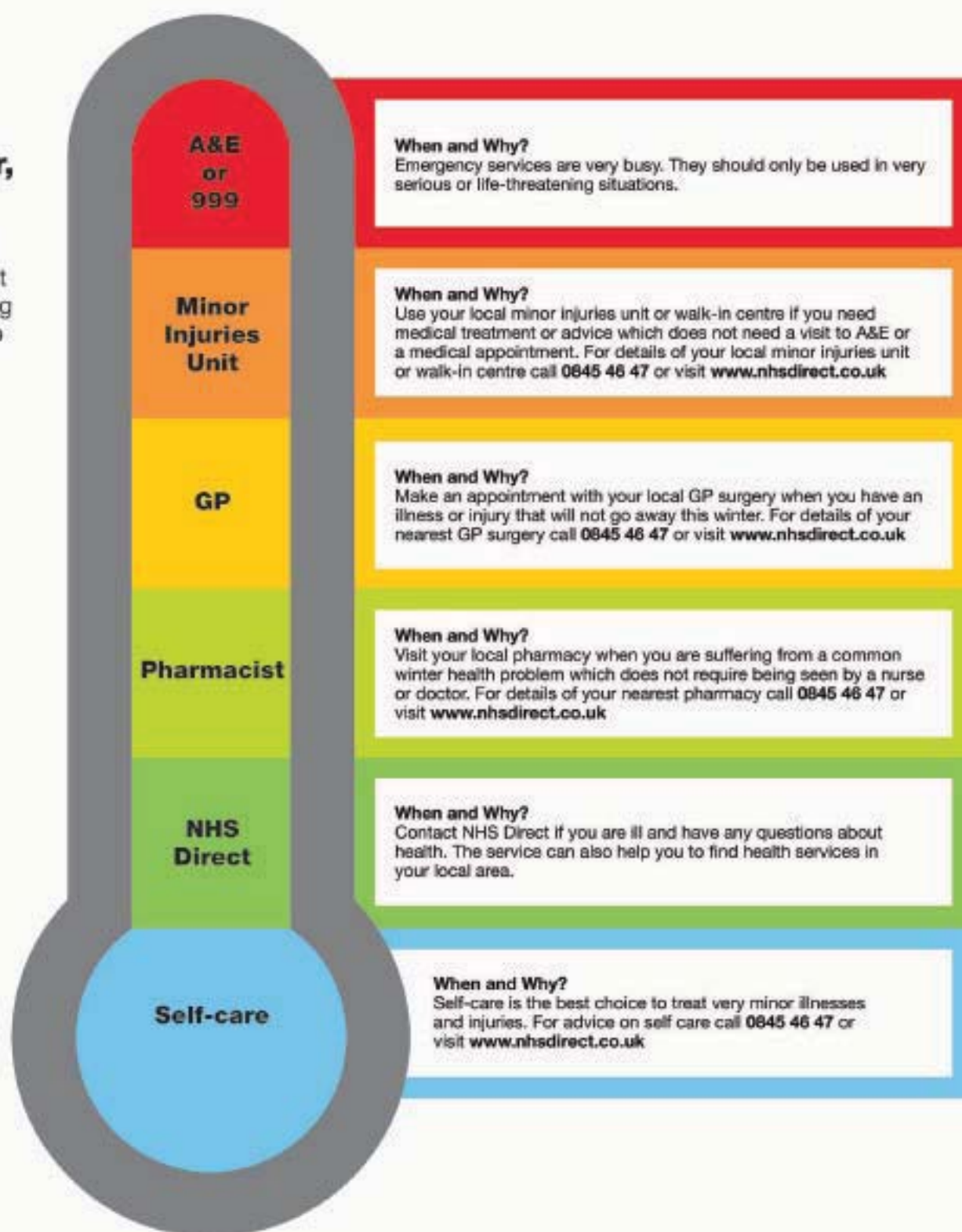


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## MEP demands controversial ban on Muslim veil

# 'Burkas may be hiding terrorists'

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

**BAN** the burka is the call from a top politician who says the veil has no place on the streets of the UK.

Nigel Farage is the former leader of the UK Independence Party and is a Kent MEP.

He said veils, worn by some Muslim women to completely cover the face, should be outlawed as it helps create a divided Britain.

Mr Farage said fines could be used to dissuade women from wearing them, but policing would be problematic if women become defiant.

However he insisted there are three main reasons why the burka, or full-face hijab, should never be seen in the UK again.

He told KOS Media: "In a security age where there are CCTV cameras everywhere we go, I can't wear a hoodie in Bluewater, I can't wear a balaclava on the Underground, and I can't wear a crash helmet in a bank – and all for good reason.

"This is especially true as one of the 7/7 bombers who attacked the transport system in London escaped because he had a veil over his face.

"The security point is inarguable. It doesn't matter if we like the environment we live in, the fact is there has to be equal application of rules



**VEIL:** MEP Nigel Farage wants the burka to be banned in the UK

that demand the face is seen.

"Secondly, we believe the veils are used as a way to subjugate women. It is odd that in a society where we talk increasingly about equality of opportunity, and fair play regardless of age, race, class, sex, this is used to keep some women down, and there are quite forthright critics of this from the Muslim community itself.

"Many do want to say they don't want to live like this. And of course it is impossible to get someone being forced to wear it to come out and openly admit they are being forced."

The third reason he is arguing for the ban is to help prevent the creation of a divided society.

Mr Farage, from Bromley, said: "The main parties have been calling

for a multi-cultural society for decades.

"And yet we are seeing a divided society of which the burka is a symbol. We are increasingly seeing ghettoised towns and cities along with a rise in radicalism and even more worrying, the increasingly loud calls for Sharia law to be introduced.

"We want to live in a society that has one law applied equally and fairly to everybody. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams said two years ago that he saw the imposition of Sharia law in Britain's major cities as being inevitable.

"We don't agree with that analysis and we don't want that analysis.

"The law has to apply to everyone or it is not worth a light."

France is already examining ways to ban the burka, and Mr Farage points out the burka is not mentioned in the Koran.

The Kent Muslim Welfare Association was set up in the 1970s to support the Islamic community and is now a hub for training, education and social welfare.

Anwar Khan is the co-ordinator for education and community cohesion, and he said: "It is all about freedom. If some women want to wear them, there is their choice and they should be free to do so.

"I can't recall anyone in a burka causing any trouble in the UK, so why should they be subjected to a ban? This surely is taking freedom from them to wear whatever they wish to."

## Drug runner is jailed for £10m cocaine plot

A MAN from Sandwich has been jailed for 23 years for his part in a £10 million cocaine smuggling ring.

Douglas Wood, 59, of Waldershare Avenue, Sandwich Bay, was one of the last three members of the gang jailed for a total of 76 years at Woolwich Crown Court on Tuesday.

Met Police started watching the crime team in November 2007 when it became apparent that two of them, Patrick Walsh and John Dunlop, were carrying out reconnaissance over several months into cash delivery routes in the Hertfordshire area.

Then, during January 2008, the network's main organiser, Walsh, began to plot a conspiracy to import cocaine from the Caribbean into the UK.

Walsh made repeated trips to Trinidad, Tobago, Barbados and Grenada using the false name of Michael Sheridan. He sometimes travelled with David Coxon and they were often joined by Wood.

The cocaine plan progressed and on July 20, 2008, Coxon and Wood set sail from Grenada, falsely telling Customs they were heading to



**JAILED:** Sandwich's Douglas Wood

Brazil. Instead they headed for Bartica in Guyana to pick up 91.3 kilos of high-quality cocaine straight from the South American jungle.

Coxon and Wood were sailing back to the UK, heading for Portsmouth.

Officers called in the assistance of the UK Borders Agency and the

Royal Navy to stop their boat 15 miles off the Cornwall coast at about 5am on September 12, 2008.

Searches of the yacht found the cocaine with a street value of £10m.

Patrick Walsh, 48, of Blairhead Drive, Watford, Hertfordshire, was jailed for 21 years after he admitted conspiracy to import 91.3 kilos of cocaine. He also admitted possession of a handgun and ammunition with intent to commit robbery.

John Dunlop, 52, of St Leonards On Sea, East Sussex, was jailed for eight years for possession of two firearms and 213 rounds of ammunition.

William Cannon, 49, of Rainham, Essex, admitted possession of three firearms and 271 rounds of ammunition and was given five years.

Joseph Gorgin, 28, also of St Leonards-on-Sea, admitted firearms offences and was given five years.

David Coxon, 54, Newcastle, admitted conspiracy to import the drugs and was handed a sentence of 15 years.

And, finally, Douglas Wood was found guilty of conspiracy to import the drugs and was jailed for 23 years.

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The Smokefree logo, featuring a stylized blue icon of a person with arms raised, above the word 'SMOKEFREE' in bold blue capital letters.

**SMOKEFREE**



# Film retells grim tale of the medieval pandemic that saw a village razed to the ground

# Black Death and destruction

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

MARGATE hasn't always been candyfloss, rock, and playing on the beach – the whole region was once stricken by the Black Death.

And the full horror has been captured in a locally made film starring residents and actors from the area.

The remarkable film is now set to be screened in Broadstairs next month.

It explicitly captures life in Thanet in the grip of the catastrophic plague.

Set in 1348, the film tells the story of a medieval Thanet village, the people who live in it and the shocking impact the plague has on their lives.

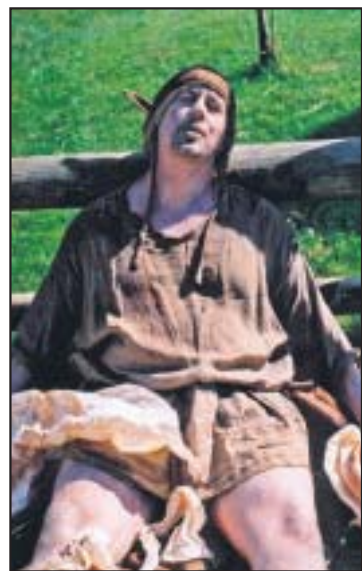
Shot on location in Thanet, it vividly recreates the life of the period, including attitudes to women and the central role of religion.

## Research

Producer Norman Thomas said: "The film was based on extensive research into the period, but the thing that really brings it to life is the contribution of the local people."

"We explained to them what the plague would have been like and asked them to imagine what it would have meant to them, to see relatives and loved ones die, and to increasingly realise they could do nothing about it."

"Our local actors really rose to the challenge and this gives rise to some truly moving moments."



**HORROR STORY:** Locals star new film *Thanet and The Black Death*, set in 1348, which tells the harrowing story of the disease that gripped Acol

Research was hampered because few details were actually recorded, but the filmmakers discovered the horror of the village of Acol where practically the entire population was wiped out by the plague.

To prevent it from spreading, every building was razed to the ground in a massive inferno.

The approach to dealing with health at the time would shock doctors today, but the emotional and in-depth movie examines some of the unusual methods used to fight disease at the time.

Mr Thomas said: "One of the strongest beliefs was in bleeding people to cure them. But there were many other odd ideas – for example, they thought goat's droppings could cure gout, or that wearing a toad around your neck would help cure internal bleeding."

Based on a series of educational films made in 2002, *Thanet and The Black Death* is produced by the same people who made the much-acclaimed *Thanet On Film*, which featured footage of the island from the 1920s to the present days.

Originally intended for a single showing in November, *Thanet On Film* has been sold out every week since and

is still showing at Broadstairs' Palace Cinema every Sunday.

Mr Thomas said: "Our previous screening was *Thanet On Film*, this is *Medieval Thanet On Film*. We hope people will be as interested in what was happening here 800 years ago as they are in Thanet 80 years ago."

The Black Death was one of the deadliest pandemics in human history.

Over just 52 years from 1348, the bubonic plague killed more than 100 million people across the globe, slashing the population by up to 60 per cent after starting in central Asia.

It is widely believed it was caused by bites from fleas that had been living on black rats that arrived on merchant ships and spread from ports.

It took a century and a half for Europe to recover, and despite several more outbreaks killings millions more, it was finally all but eradicated in Europe by the 19th century.

• *The film will be screened on Sunday, February 7, at 5pm. To book ring the Palace Cinema on 01843 865726.*



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See [www.thebrewhousehotel.net](http://www.thebrewhousehotel.net) for more details.

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\*Prize cannot be taken over Bank Holiday weekends, Christmas, New Year.



## Aloud girl and motormouth best celebrity dinner dates



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Cole

CHERYL Cole and Jeremy Clarkson are the two most popular celebrities Kent diners would like to share a meal with, according to a new survey.

Barack Obama, Jamie Oliver and Gordon Ramsay are also on the most wanted list, which

was put together by OnePoll on behalf of the Table Table restaurant in Ashford.

The least welcome dinner guests were Katie Price, Kerry Katona and Amy Winehouse, with politics the most popular topic of conversation.

## Pass up on the salt

KENT Trading Standards is advising consumers to check the levels of salt in food, particularly in light snacks or lunch foods.

Tests by County Hall's Kent Scientific Services, found that Chinese-style soups and sushi can both contain a high amount of salt.

Eight of the 15 soups tested contained over half the daily recommended maximum salt intake for an adult, which is 6g a day. One of the soups tested contained almost the entire daily amount.

More information about food contents and labelling is available at [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk).

## Lord's speech on life in the justice system

FORMER Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill will give an open lecture at the University of Kent on Friday, January 29, at 6pm.

Titled The Law Today, the lecture is free and open to all.

Lord Bingham became Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales in 1996.

He was the highest-ranking judge in regular courtroom service in England and Wales.



# Training boost for dementia care

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

**HEALTH** professionals are being given vital training to ensure dementia sufferers receive the essential support they need.

The specialised courses are being run at the Dementia Services Development Centre South East at Canterbury Christ Church University to help tackle the shortage of qualified medical staff.

The training scheme comes after criticism by the National Audit Office which slammed the Department of Health for not prioritising the condition – the most well-known form being Alzheimer's.

## Criticism

The scheme also tackles criticism about the lack of basic training for doctors and nurses in dementia care by providing accredited courses for medical staff.

Health professionals from Christ Church University believe this shows their commitment not only to sufferers and their families, but to the profession.

The Dementia Services Development Centre, which has been running for six years, offers specialised training and a foundation degree in dementia care.

Doctors, nurses and carers are put

on accredited courses, covering everything from early diagnosis to developing new skills for palliative care.

According to Penny Hibberd, director of the centre, this kind of support is vital, especially for poorly paid carers who work outside of the NHS network.

"There is a big need for carers, whether working in the community or in care homes, but many of these positions are taken up by people who left school at 16 who are not qualified," she said.

"Some care homes have in-house training, but what we're trying to do is pair that up with accredited courses to make sure they are qualified in dementia care.

"For nurses it is slightly different as they have to frequently update their knowledge. They would be expected to do training in dementia and they can do this through the university,

"It is also vital for GPs to have training and this has been run through a clinic in Medway."

Ms Hibberd stressed that individual learning is an important part of the course.

"We look at how we can better the training. We don't just blanket buy a package, but give carers the support they need to learn how to help people with dementia," she added.

The centre recently formed a partnership with Avante Care Homes and national charity For Dementia to help identify key areas in need of support.

Ms Hibberd said: "Because so many people are getting dementia, it is important that medical staff and carers know how to treat them."

Around 700,000 people suffer with dementia in the UK.

The two most common forms of the disease are Alzheimer's and vascular dementia.

The latter is affected by people's lifestyles, although this is a relatively unknown fact, according to Ms Hibberd.

She said: "If people don't keep an eye on their blood pressure or have a bad diet or smoke they could get dementia.

"People usually link smoking with cardiovascular problems but it can also lead to other conditions.

"Medical history of strokes or heart problems within the family can also increase the risk."

Research has suggested there is no known cause for Alzheimer's but some experts put it down to damaged and reduced blood cells in the brain.

Sufferers gradually lose their mental functions such as memory, concentration and thought.

There is also a loss in the ability to do everyday things.

Ms Hibberd said there are many challenges facing carers and practitioners in dealing with these patients.

She added that the loss of many community services also piles on the pressure.

"There is no community support anymore," she said. "If you live in a

small village you have to go out of town for shopping and these things gradually become a lot harder for people with dementia."

• **For more information about the training, which takes place over 18 months, visit [www.canterbury.ac.uk/health](http://www.canterbury.ac.uk/health).**

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# KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

## We need action over grammars

CHOOSING a secondary school is one of the toughest and most important decisions a child and their parents have to make.

It is therefore the cause of much pain and frustration when youngsters are not accepted into their schools of choice, or – worse still – are asked to travel to the other side of the county to benefit from selective education.

This worrying trend appears to be on the rise as out-of-county youngsters vie for a limited number of grammar school places, so it is right that an independent review be held to find a solution. It is simply not acceptable that local children are missing out, and it is high time something was done about it.

The top brass at Kent County Council appear genuine when they say they want every youngster to receive the best education possible, but actions speak louder than words and only time will tell if they are true to their promise. If not then there will be some serious questions to answer from angry parents and children alike.

## See the suffering

WHILE the recession and recent bad weather may have caused suffering among many, at least they've been spared the Black Death.

The residents of Thanet were not so lucky when the bubonic plague struck Kent back in the 14th century, and their misery has been lovingly recreated for all our enjoyment as part of a new film.

Swine flu had nothing on this epidemic, so it should make for interesting viewing.

## OPINION:

## We must protest to survive

### Activist Rory Wilkinson says the market solutions on offer at the UN climate summit will not help us avert disaster



I WAS there when world leaders and business people gathered at the UN climate summit in Copenhagen, known as COP15. I was not alone in failing to be filled with confidence.

To the thousands who came from all over the world to demonstrate, it was common knowledge that even the most far-reaching proposals would fall short of what is necessary to prevent global disaster.

Thousands will have returned home with a clearer understanding of what humanity is up against, as well as ideas about how we might better our world.

It seemed clear to everyone outside the Bella Centre venue, and to many inside, that the agenda was set to fail not only because it did not propose tough enough measures to curb climate change, but because its only proposed solutions were market-based.

They rely on the trading of pollution, promising nothing but a fatal return to business as usual, yet freshly encumbered by a new strata of bureaucracy.

Climate change is about much more than CO2. The future of biological and human diversity is at stake, along with every economy and every job. Every aspect of our individual lifestyles and outlooks demands an overhaul to avoid catastrophe.

On December 12, 100,000 took to the streets to demand justice. World leaders were urged to take action not only on the most cen-

tral issue – cutting carbon emissions to minimise global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees – but also to create green jobs; safeguarding the survival of indigenous peoples; downscaling the meat industry; and increased freedom of migration.

All the issues marginalised and excluded from the agenda were highlighted on the streets that day. Their spokespeople had no recourse for being heard or integrated into a democratic process of decision-making and were left to march the streets.

If non-violent action ceases to be an effective tool for getting heard, already there is good reason for outrage. If the public right to protest is brought into dispute, there is cause for great concern.

Only three of the nearly 1,000 people arrested that day were charged. The demo on December 14 was to call for greater freedom of migration for people displaced by climate change. The demo was declared a victory by many because no-one got arrested.

On December 16, a demonstration entitled Reclaim Power was

held. Up to 50 delegates from the summit staged a mass walk-out in protest at the undemocratic and exclusive nature of the talks.

They were to meet with demonstrators outside the Bella Centre and form a 'people's assembly', at which the troubles of the world were to be discussed by those usually left without a voice.

On the day, police brutality ensured there was little chance of getting anywhere near the fence, let alone inside the grounds of the Bella Centre. Most shockingly, delegates attempting to leave the centre in protest were not merely prevented from doing so, some were beaten with truncheons to keep them inside.

After 15 minutes all but 10 or so of the 150-strong block I was with had been arrested. I was taken to the temporary detention facility in the Valby district that had been constructed especially for COP15 protesters; rows of cages in a warehouse. To control any form of defiance, the police routinely used pepper spray and truncheons. At one point an officer even started waving his gun.

Copenhagen has not only demonstrated the unwillingness and inability of politicians to achieve workable solutions to the climate crisis, it has shown the limitations imposed on our abilities as citizens to prompt positive change. What I learned is police repression and violence serves both to radicalise and alienate. If they wish to proliferate a culture of extremism, they are going the right way about it.

If more Europeans speak out and take action rather than remaining apathetic, they will find out what activists have long known: that our democracy permits a paper vote every few years, not a meaningful voice.

They will find how severely our rights to protest have been eroded and realise, once it is already too late, that there is no other recourse for being heard.

• **Rory Wilkinson is an artist from St Margaret's Bay, near Dover. A longer version of this article is in the blogs section at [kentnews.co.uk](http://kentnews.co.uk).**

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## Stakes are far too high

In reply to Messrs Mullard and Grainger on green issues (Letters, last week): firstly no-one is suggesting a return to the 17th century to beat climate change, just to adapt to it as soon as possible now and avoid letting it become any worse.

This can be done, in part, by changing our industrial base to a renewables one to cut carbon emissions, and by helping people change their energy use through being directly responsible for it and their consumption so as to reduce carbon footprints.

On energy, Mr Mullard's dislike of the look of wind turbines is no excuse for not having them. The proposed ones are mostly now off-shore anyway, the technology being improved all the time as well, and are not the only source of renewables. Expanding solar panning for homes and businesses along with better home and office insulation, tidal and wave technology, etc, can all help us make the necessary changes.

New nuclear is just another red herring. For one thing the availability of uranium, a fossil fuel, is diminishing rapidly – as with oil, gas and coal – so will become uneconomic to mine and transport. That Dungeness is to become another intermediate waste dump for the foreseeable future is hardly a recommendation either.

So we will all have to change our lifestyles – but is that really so bad? For instance, in reply to Mr Grainger, the planet could sustain twice the number of people if we stuck to having about two hectares each.

Currently, most of the developing world 'exists' on about 0.5 to one hectare per person (hpa) while Europe and the UK use 3-4hpa and the USA over 5hpa. This is surely both unsustainable and unfair in the extreme.

Incidentally, Mr Grainger, for your experiment, I suggest you add a second bowl with just ice in it, then let it melt. Add this to the water and ice bowl you mention in your letter and you will see a rapid rise in 'sea levels'.

It is the land-based ice sheets on Greenland

## Back to the future, Terry

Terry Mullard is out of touch and out of time (Letters, last week).

First, if he thinks any Green wants to return to the past he is mistaken.

Modern wind turbines, with contemporary gearing and aerodynamic design were certainly not available in the 17th century.

Nor were the solar panels heating units that can cut gas bills, or the solar panels that can reduce electricity bills. If every home, school and hospital had these, our long-term energy bills would be much lower.

Clearly, any new investment in renewable, safe and clean technologies and energy efficiency will cost money.

So does insulating homes to stop the appalling loss of life to the cold in the UK

each winter – 36,700 deaths in 2008-09. The public paid for and is still paying for all the coal and nuclear power stations we have. But nuclear is not a clean or cheap option. Radioactive waste needs storage for up to 250,000 years, making it by far the most expensive energy option.

A careful study of available evidence by one newspaper showed the real cost of cleaning up after the nuclear industry had risen to £160 billion by 2006.

New nuclear stations would just add to this. We need a green industrial revolution. We cannot return to the past.

And what's wrong with growing your own food? After all, more people are choosing to do this every year.

*Dr Hazel Dawe, Kent Green Party*

and Antarctica which if they melt, could raise sea levels by several metres rapidly in addition to the slow rise from sea-ice – 10cm in the last 100 years or so.

The dates and exact levels may be subject to debate, the recent Himalayan glacier debate notwithstanding, but why let it get that bad? Scientists have just revealed that more methane, a far worse greenhouse gas than CO<sub>2</sub>, is being released from thawing Arctic and Siberian tundra due to climate change. Some worry about tax hikes, but most of those proposed by green groups, and now by the CEO of the Financial Services Industry Adair Turner, who also backs invest-

ing in green technology, would be mostly on industries that pollute. Other wasteful taxes and spending – ID cards, Trident, bailing out banks, paying bonuses – can be switched to bringing in the Green New Deal to provide jobs, etc. If President Obama can demand the return of American taxpayers' money from bailed out banks, why can't we, instead of cuts across the board?

Change may be difficult and threaten vested interests, but the overall risk to us and our descendants is far greater than that, and so demands urgent action by us all on all social, economic and environmental levels.

*Ray Duff, Folkestone*

### YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to [editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk). Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

## I want to catch the bus

Does anyone know where the ex-Guernsey, Reading-bodied Bedford J4L bus is? Its last known owner was a Mr Blackwood of Erith, Kent. It was originally registered 14223 (as photographed in 1993) but later re-registered as JFL 93D. If would be pleased to receive any information. Phone 01223 843802 or email [jwakefield63@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jwakefield63@yahoo.co.uk).

*John Wakefield, Cambridge*

## Make your voice heard

Readers may be unaware the consultation period for the Edinburgh House proposal in Gravesend has been extended (Heritage Quarter – planning application 200080696).

The revised application is online to view, and there is a mini exhibition in the foyer of the Woodville Halls. Urban Gravesham feel it is crucial for residents to fully understand the implications of this proposal.

Despite the council having received more than 3,500 letters of objection, with the exception of the tower little has changed from the original application. This is still a huge development, out of character and scale with surrounding buildings and out of touch with what the Heritage Quarter needs.

The immense bulk of the buildings will cast many areas into shadow, with river views being obscured not only from the Market Square but from as far afield as Windmill Hill. Also, St Andrew's Gardens, upper and lower, are still under threat from development. We urge everyone to look at this scheme and write to Clive Gilbert at the Civic Centre (email: [clive.gilbert@gravesham.gov.uk](mailto:clive.gilbert@gravesham.gov.uk)) and register their comments.

Further information can be obtained from [urbangravesham.org](http://urbangravesham.org). Yes to sympathetic regeneration that meets the needs of our town. This revised application does neither.

*Sue Couves, secretary, Urban Gravesham*

Letters continued on page 32

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# BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400  
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

## BIRTHS

### BRENTON

Mark and Sarah celebrate the birth of their son William Henry Brenton on 26th December 2009. A brother for Evie.

### BROOM

Isabel Grace born on the 7th January 2010 weighing 8lbs 15ozs. Daughter to Christopher and Rachel of Dover and sister to Harry.

### BURKE

Ava Elsie born on 12th January 2010, weighing 8lbs 3oz. Daughter to Zara and Peter in Ramsgate. Mummy and Daddy's special little angel.

### BURTON

Jeanette and Andrew Burton celebrate the birth of their daughter Nancy Alice Burton on the 6th January 2010.

### COLLEY

James Robert born 10th January 2010. Son of Mandy and Drew Colley. Little brother to Ben. Margate, Kent.

### FOREMAN

Kirsty and Rob Foreman celebrate the birth of their son, Matthew Oliver Foreman, born at Pembury Hospital on 27th December 2009, weighing 7lb 9oz.

### KNIGHT

Ruby-Lea Michelle Knight born on 7th January 2010, weighing 6lbs 2oz. Daughter to Charli Wiles and Kane Knight in Maidstone.

### MACEY

Katishé Went and Jason Macey are celebrating the birth of their son Harrison Ethan Macey, born on 30th December 2009 weighing 7lbs 7ozs.

### MOSS

Lisa and Stafford Moss celebrate the birth of their son Harry David Alexander Moss on 3rd January 2010. A little brother for Emily.

### MULLER

Tanya and Jamie celebrate the birth of their daughter Evie-Louise Muller on 26th December 2009.

### OLIVER

Emma and Ashley Oliver would like to announce the arrival of their daughter Grace Louise on 9th January 2010 at 12:03 pm. Grace weighed 8lbs 13oz and is a sister for Megan.

### PHIBBS

Becky and Lawrie celebrate the birth of their son Dylan Jude Phibbs on 31st December 2009.

### ROWLAND-DAY

Isaac John born on 29th December 2009, weighing 6lbs 9ozs. Son to Lindsey and Owen in Broadstairs. Little brother for Reuben.

### RUSSELL-HARVEY

Matt and Louise of Kings Hill celebrate the birth of their son Harrison Brian Ron Russell-Harvey on 10th January 2010, weighing 7lb 2oz. Brother to Lewis.

### STANLEY

Ophelia Hope born 6th January 2010, weighing 9lbs. Daughter to Dan and Maria in Ramsgate. You are the miracle that we will love and treasure forever.

### TIGHE

Francis Anthony Tighe born on 1st January 2010 weighing 8lb 2oz. Son to Mark and Emer Tighe of Devonshire Avenue Dartford.

### TOPLEY

Nichola and Faron Topley celebrate the birth of their son Kyle Faron Topley on 2nd January 2010.

### TRICE

Gareth and Elizabeth celebrate the birth of their son Alfie James Trice, born on 5th January 2010, weighing 9lbs 8oz. A brother to Jack Matthew Trice.

### WASS

Chloe and Matthew Wass celebrate the birth of their son Casper Hartley Dennis Wass on 13th January 2010.

### WILMOT

Nicky and Lucy are proud to announce the safe arrival of Archie Stephen Wilmot. He was born at 7.13 am at Darent Valley Hospital on 4th January 2010. Archie weighed 5lb 14oz and Mum and baby are doing very well - and Dad is over the moon.

## DEATHS

### CHANEY

Cornelius Chaney died peacefully on 12th January 2010 aged 84. Dearly loved husband, father and grandfather.

### CLAYDON

Kenneth Claydon died peacefully on 15th January 2010 in Maidstone Hospital. Beloved husband of Zita will be sadly missed.

### DEARDEN

John (Jack) 1/02/1914-12/01/2010. Died peacefully aged 95 years after a short illness. He will be sadly missed by his son Roy and Daughter-in-law Jean, as well as his family and friends. We wish to thank those in Sampson Court for their loving care of Jack and also all his friends at Betteshanger Bowling Club where he loved to be. Please contact Dilnot-Smith in Deal for details of funeral arrangements.

### DERRICK

Rebecca Derrick (nee Hogan) passed away peacefully in Kent and Canterbury Hospital on January 11th 2010 aged 59 years. Loving mother to Toby and

Grandmother to Isabela and Yasmin. Any enquiries or donations to Lyons Funeral Directors Canterbury.

### FIELD

Geoffrey Ralph Field of Folkestone died peacefully on 14th January 2010. Contact Chittendens Folkestone with regard to funeral arrangements.

### KELLY

Jackie Kelly of Trotscliffe passed away peacefully after a long illness on 12th January 2010 aged 60. Enquiries to Viners Funerals West Malling 01732 842485.

### PERRY

Patrick Perry on 14th January 2010, aged 81. Dearly loved husband of Angela, father of Christopher, Madeleine and Oliver and grandfather to Harry and Benjamin. Cremation at Charing Crematorium.

### WAKEMAN

Wakeman, Agnes Mary. Passed away peacefully on Jan 13th 2010 after 76 glorious fun filled years. A truly special person, with a zest for life. Your family and friends will miss you deeply, but your spirit will live in our hearts for ever. Celebration of life service to be held Mon 25th Jan 4pm Garden of England Crematorium Bobbing Sittingbourne ME9 8GZ. Dress code colourful, donations in lieu of flowers can be made to the Agnes Wakeman memorial fund. Care of Woollard and Kent, Whitstable 0845 2607123.

### WILCOCK

Nancy Wilcock died peacefully on 13th January 2010. For Funeral Service details please contact A W Court of Maidstone.

attendance record, I must share my positive experience of the school and its students.

Last year a team drawn from years seven to nine attended our girls' rugby tag tournament at Tunbridge Wells RFC.

My colleagues and I were so impressed with their behaviour and the way the girls competed that we awarded the team a special fair play plaque, which I delivered to the academy a few days later.

Not only was I given time to express my appreciation to the sports staff but, at very short notice, the academy assembled the girls' team and arranged a photo call, and we had a good talk about the value of the event with everyone involved.

I have worked for 20 years as a volunteer, coaching rugby in both state and private schools as part of my duties as schools liaison officer for Tunbridge Wells RFC, including three years with Southwark primary schools. Together with this inner city work, my experience with New Line Learning Academy has proved to be the highlight of my coaching career. This may be only a small window into the school's activities and its efforts to succeed, but succeed it most certainly did.

The lesson I learned most forcibly from my short time with New Line Learning Academy and in Southwark is that, as a society, we ignore at our peril the need to encourage and give values to those who are not academic high-flyers or come from disadvantaged homes.

There is an enormous pool of talent among these children and New Line Learning Academy and similar establishments are seeking to achieve success in this most important sector of education. Coaching children rugby from scratch doesn't produce immediate success and effort has to be sustained, and no doubt this applies to education. Statistics very rarely tell the real story.

*Andrew Parry, by email*

## Centre must be moved

I was interested to see Medway Council has rejected the plans for a new drug treatment centre in Chatham High Street, a few yards from the existing centre in Manor Road.

This part of Chatham has become increasingly residential and people have suffered long enough with the anti-social behaviour of some of those who visit the centre in Manor Road or congregate outside.

To move the centre round the corner would not solve the problem. Residents in and around Manor Road will be pleased the centre is going to move. Every effort should be made to make the neighbourhood a safe and pleasant place to live, free from the unwanted influence of drugs and prostitution.

The problems in the area were highlighted by a recent high-profile arrest for kerb-crawling and it is welcome that the police are continuing to address these. Residents will welcome the attempts to move the drug treatment centre but will hope any move takes the centre out of a residential area.

*Cllr Bill Esterson, Labour, River ward*

## Your lucky numbers

We are calling on the people of Kent to nominate their favourite lottery-funded projects for the National Lottery Awards 2010.

Every week, lottery players raise £25 million for projects across the UK, making a difference to people, places and communities.

We want to hear from your readers about lottery-funded projects that have had a positive impact on their area and made a real difference to people's lives, or anyone who is involved in transforming their community with the help of lottery funding.

The awards have seven categories, each reflecting the main areas of lottery funding: arts, sport, heritage, health, environment, education, voluntary and charity projects.

The projects that make it to the finals of The National Lottery Awards will appear on a star-studded prime-time BBC1 TV show later this year. They will also have a chance to win a £2,000 cash prize.

So if you want to see a local winner visit www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk to find out more. Entries must be received by 5pm on Friday, February 12.

*Lisa Quinn, The National Lottery*

## Loan sharks circling

New research published by housing provider Circle Anglia predicting that up to 100,000 families were forced to borrow from loan sharks to fund Christmas highlights the profound impact the economic downturn has had on some of the most vulnerable in our communities. A growing number of families, often without access to mainstream financial services or credit, are resorting to borrowing from illegal doorstep lenders. According to the research, an average loan of £300 taken out at Christmas will cost in excess of £800 to repay. Exorbitant levels of interest of 1,500 per cent APR and more are not uncommon. We hope that by turning the spotlight on loan shark activity we can help more people to seek help and highlight the need for more alternative ways for people to access affordable credit.

*Andy Doyle, executive director, Circle Anglia; Faisal Rahman, managing director, Fair Finance; and Mick McAteer, founder and director, Financial Inclusion Centre*

## Slaughterhouse shock

Last week, Animal Aid exposed in the national media abject cruelties and possible illegal activity in yet another UK slaughterhouse, this time a Soil Association approved abattoir that should be the gold standard in the industry.

Things at this abattoir were so bad that we had to interrupt our investigation to report the abuses to the Meat Hygiene Service. They immediately suspended three workers and began building a case for a prosecution.

We filmed pigs being punched, kicked, slapped and hit with tongs; sheep forcibly thrown into the stun room; animals being 'stunned' across the body, a procedure which doesn't so much stun them as give them a massive and painful electric shock; and sheep being decapitated before they were dead.

This is the third sheep and pig abattoir that we have filmed in recent months and it is the third that has shown serious problems.

It strengthens the view that slaughter can never be anything other than a horrific, terrifying ordeal. I would urge people to watch our footage online (www.animalaid.org.uk) and then kick the meat habit for good.

*Kate Fowler, Animal Aid, Tonbridge*

## The week to Be Loud

Too many people are needlessly dying from bowel cancer. It is the UK's second biggest cancer killer, yet over 90 per cent of cases could be treated successfully if diagnosed early. That's where screening comes in. If you are aged 60-69, you are eligible for the NHS bowel cancer screening and will receive a kit every two years to complete and return by post.

This week (January 25-31) is Be Loud Be Clear week, Beating Bowel Cancer's annual campaign. For 2010 the charity is urging everyone eligible to participate in screening.

In addition, Beating Bowel Cancer is calling for an extension of the screening programme to include everyone aged 50-74 so more people at risk of bowel cancer have the opportunity to be screened and beat the disease.

My grandfather died of bowel cancer and my mother is fighting the disease, so I know only too well how important it is to Be Loud about bowel cancer. For more information, including ways you can get involved, visit www.beatingbowelcancer.org.

*Matt Dawson MBE, patron, Beating Bowel Cancer*

## You were magnificent

The Registered Nursing Home Association would like to express thanks to nursing home staff for maintaining services during the bad weather in recent weeks. Like everyone else, nursing home staff faced extraordinary difficulties in getting to and from work. The fact that the vast majority turned up for duty is much appreciated by patients, relatives and nursing home owners and managers.

*Ian Turner, chairman, and Frank Ursell, CEO, RNHA*

Letters continued from page 31

## Weathering the storm

The recent poor weather has left a lot of people with concerns about how Medway Council dealt with the situation and also how it will deal with future wintry spells.

Many residents have made sensible suggestions on how the winter weather strategy may be improved, often at no or very small cost to the council.

The Facebook group set up in response to people's experiences of untreated roads and pavements – which has about 1,400 members – is filled with these examples.

I was pleased that following my question on this at the last full council meeting the portfolio holder agreed to consider both the phone calls taken by the council and also the Facebook group when considering the lessons to be learned.

These will be reported at the next scrutiny meeting as my ward colleague, Cllr Paul Godwin, has placed a members' item, to be heard in March.

I hope that when looking at potential improvements these suggestions are taken seriously.

*Cllr Vince Maple, Chatham Central ward*

## Shameful BBC report

I was appalled by a report on the regional BBC news comparing Invicta Grammar School and New Line Learning Academy in Maidstone. It's ridiculous to compare academic achievements in one school against truancy rates in another.

What the report highlights is that if you cream off all the so-called brighter children at 11 and put them into one school, then that school will do better. It's a perfect example of why the 11-plus doesn't work, causing social division among children and anxiety for parents desperate to get them into a grammar school.

My son attends New Line Learning Academy and is flourishing there. The school is supportive, welcoming and has fantastically engaging approaches to the subjects taught, and has dynamic staff and a great headteacher. I wouldn't want him to go to school anywhere else.

*Sharon Amos, Harrietsham*

## Academy's fair play

Following the BBC's regional news report about New Line Learning Academy and its



# Welcome to Environment, Highways and Waste



**I'm Nick Chard and I hope you will read this special supplement to see some of the good things we are doing in Kent.**

As Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste at Kent County Council, I can tell you that we care about your communities, our countryside and looking after Kent's roads.

We've just experienced the coldest winter for 29 years and everyone has been affected.

Our 66 road salting lorries have been battling day and night during the big freeze to keep main roads open. We planned well ahead and have used nearly 20,000 tonnes of salt - much more than we normally would in a whole winter.

The severe weather has been exceptional and we realise this has made it difficult for people to get about, especially on icy pavements. We have tried to help in the treacherous conditions, together with our colleagues in local councils, the emergency services, volunteers and traders.

In this supplement you will find out more about our efforts, how community groups are trying to reduce their waste, how we are helping local schools to save money and energy, about the attractions of one of our country parks and a delightful walk in the Kent countryside.

## It's a muddy marvel!



At Shorne Woods Country Park you'll find scores of young children from the Gravesham area taking part in a unique project that allows them to do what young kids do best – get dirty – and learn at the same time. The three-year, government-funded scheme, 'The Budding Project', has been running since February 2009. So far, participants, organisers and educationalists are impressed with the results.

The pictures show what looks like the children playing – and they are. But this time and space outdoors allows them to explore and express their ideas and use their imagination. Research shows that developing these processes greatly increases a child's ability to learn and develop. Dressed in waterproofs and wellies, the pint-sized explorers have the time of their lives looking for insects, climbing over logs, discovering different leaf shapes, and paddling in muddy puddles.



Back at school, their excitement contributes to work on their social and emotional skills, as well as communication and language development. The children return every three weeks to discover new areas of the park and take part in different activities.

*The Budding Project develops the Early Years Foundation Stage and is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families.*

Shorne Woods Country Park has many way-marked paths, 'Trim Trails' exercise equipment for those looking for a more active experience, as well as an easy access trail and we offer regular activity days. A pay and display car park operates all year at Shorne Woods Country Park. Charges are Monday - Friday £1.70, weekends and Bank holidays £2.20.

**For more information on Kent Country Parks and events in the parks, please visit [www.kent.gov.uk/kentcountryparks](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kentcountryparks) or call 08458 247 600**

Country Parks



# Kent Highway Services

## Keeping Kent moving

**At Kent Highway Services, we have listened to the concerns of the travelling public and have come up with some solutions to tackle the issues around road delays and congestion.**

We all appreciate good, well-maintained roads to drive on, with safe pavements, and we all need the gas, water, electricity and broadband services that run beneath them. However, repairs to keep these in good order and the maintenance and provision of your utility services make roadworks inevitable, which can contribute to delays to your journey.

We're introducing the Kent Permit Scheme, which will give us greater control over who is working on the roads and when they are allowed to. We are also redesigning our roadwork signs to give you more information about what's being done to improve the road, and investing in technology to provide you with more information on where roadworks are in Kent, via our website [www.kent.gov.uk/travel](http://www.kent.gov.uk/travel)

## Kent Permit Scheme

A new scheme to keep Kent moving starts this week that gives Kent Highway Services the power to co-ordinate and control roadworks far more effectively.

In the past, a company needing to carry out work on our roads had to inform us of the when and where of their plans. Now, under the Kent Permit Scheme, by law companies must apply for our permission to carry out works. This gives us the opportunity to impose conditions on the project, such as doing work at the same time as other companies, where possible, which will reduce the need for further roadworks. We also have the power to co-ordinate a number of roadworks in a locality before granting a permit, in order to try to minimise the potential disruption to the travelling public.

We all need reliable utilities and other services, and the companies that provide them need to work on the roads. We believe that by managing these vital works better all residents in Kent will benefit.

As a result of the scheme, in the future, road users can expect less disruption caused by road works and better co-ordination and management of the works. We will monitor the scheme closely from the outset to ensure that road users get maximum benefits from the Kent Permit Scheme.



## Checking for roadworks on your route

Visit the Kent Traffic & Travel website at [www.kent.gov.uk/travel](http://www.kent.gov.uk/travel) for the latest information on roadworks in Kent.

Tick the 'roadworks' box at the top of the map to see details of current and planned works in specific locations, together with details of their severity and duration.

The website lists traffic problems and incidents on the roads to help you plan your journey so you can avoid them. You can also see how the traffic is flowing at key junctions from images provided by our traffic cameras.

We will be adding information to the Kent Traffic and Travel website about available car parking spaces and journey times on main roads in Canterbury, Gravesend and Maidstone town centres. 'Real-time' bus information giving the predicted arrival time of buses at many stops throughout the county will also be added.



# Looking after our roads this winter

The cold weather we have experienced over the last few weeks has affected us all, whether getting around by car or on foot.

At Kent Highway Services, we do everything we can to keep Kent moving safely when there is ice and snow. Our 66 road-salting lorries go out continuously, day and night to clear the main roads, while the Highways Agency salts the motorways.

We have 53 priority routes, covering 1,500 miles of road, about a third of the county's network. These routes are salted and cleared of snow, keeping the major roads open. A further 48 secondary routes are salted when possible, and we provide crews to lay salt by hand in key areas such as hills, at road junctions and to fill salt bins. We also use local farmers on designated rural areas to clear the snow.

During one weekend of the recent bad weather:

- ▶ We used 6,500 tonnes of salt on Kent's roads
- ▶ Crews were on duty 24 hours a day salting all the main routes
- ▶ 26 crews were out hand salting
- ▶ Farmers were out ploughing the snow



## Tackling the potholes - fast

For the last six months, we have been using a new repair technique called 'Jetpatcher' on our roads. Two vehicles have been working across Kent, repairing potholes and patching significant amount of road surface damage.

Looking like a formula one refuelling rig, the operator blows out the hole, sprays a bonding coat and then fires in the material to complete the job. The repaired road is opened to traffic soon after.

This method has increased the volume of work achieved and reduced the time taken from report to repair - last year we completed 17,500 repairs, applying 3,220 tonnes of material on 360 roads within the county.

The process is mainly used in rural locations but has already shown that it can be applied to heavily trafficked roads. We intend to operate another two machines again this year, starting in April.

## Kent's energy saving traffic lights

All the traffic lights in Kent have been replaced with money-saving, low-energy units. It's taken two years to complete and the benefits of the new light-emitting diode (LED) units are:

- ▶ Enough energy saved to run 228 homes for a year - the size of a small village
- ▶ Reduced energy costs of up to £150,000 a year
- ▶ Less maintenance as the units have a life expectancy of 10 years
- ▶ Expected environmental savings of one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.



**We can't be everywhere all the time, which is why we need your help.**

**If you spot a problem on the roads, you can tell us about it 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.**

**It's easy to report a fault - if you want to do it online, go to our website**

**www.kent.gov.uk/highways, or if you would prefer to speak to someone call 08458 247 800.**



# We are recycling more, wasting less

**Nine community groups in Kent have funding to support their ambitions of reducing waste and recycling more. They are helping the county's waste to go down and its recycling rates go up.**

The Kent Waste Partnership, which is made up of Kent's local councils and Kent County Council, provided over £60,000 through the Community Waste Action Fund to support great ideas to compost green waste, recycle drinks cans, build an igloo and bale up quantities of recycled paper to send to the local mill, all to benefit local communities.

As these organisations work hard to meet their waste reduction goals, they are an inspiration to us all. If one is nearby, why not see what they offer and how you can support them.

The **1st Faversham Scout Group** is using its new baler for the paper they collect from local residents. It means they need fewer trips to the paper mill now.

**New Road Community Centre** on the Isle of Sheppey is working flat out to reduce its waste to zero, using the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle. The centre is taking the message to the community and working with us to promote the Love Food Hate Waste campaign.

If you use the church or village hall at **Milstead**, the Parish Council has provided compost bins for garden waste. They collect all their local gardening service's green waste at the **Faversham Assistance Centre** too, and send it to be composted.



If you visit the **Pepenbury Community** care home, café or plant nursery near Tunbridge Wells, you will see that residents and visitors now have recycling containers, compost bins and a new garden waste shredder.


**Greenhithe Community Market Garden** spent their money on efficient composting facilities, helping them to produce top quality produce to sell to local residents.



**Skillnet Community Interest Company** in Sittingbourne has bought recycling containers for their new community café, The Pulse. Their Eco-Shed has new tools to help them build bird boxes and other items using locally sourced wood waste.




Waste



## APPLE LOVERS hate waste

Whatever food you love, we can help you waste less and save up to £50 a month







Children at **Snodland CE Primary School** have built an igloo from hundreds of plastic milk bottles that they collected. The children learned about recycling issues and processes during the activity run by **The Beat Project**, a creative arts and media charity. Now the igloo is complete, it will be a chill-out area near the school playground.



**West Kent Extra & West Kent YMCA** both have a new van so they can collect even more donated furniture, white goods and small electrical items for their furniture reuse schemes, which stop bulky waste going to landfill. They have used "match-funding" to employ two drivers.

The Community Waste Action Fund complements other Kent Waste Partnership projects designed to divert waste away from landfill. These include increasing district councils' recycling rates, the Love Food Hate Waste programme, and finding better ways of managing bulky waste.



## About the Kent Waste Partnership

- ▶ The Partnership brings together Kent County Council and the 12 district and borough councils in Kent.
- ▶ Its aim is to reduce the amount of household waste sent to landfill and increase the amount recycled and composted.
- ▶ In 1998 almost 90 per cent of all household waste went into landfill sites. We are on target to reduce this to just 20% by 2010.
- ▶ Since the 'Love Food Hate Waste' campaign started in November 2007, the number of households in Kent categorised as 'committed food waste reducers' has doubled from 10% to 23% now. The aim is to raise this towards 30%.
- ▶ In 2008/09 Kent residents using council recycling services achieved a recycling rate of almost 40%. The Partnership is on track to meet the national target of 40% for 2010.



## Kent Wildlife 2010...It's counting on you!

We are celebrating our local bugs, beasts and plants in 2010 as part of the International Year of Biodiversity.

Here is a flavour of what will be taking place during the Kent Wildlife 2010 year:

**Kent Goes Wild! At Dunorlan Park, Tunbridge Wells 25 - 26 September.**

Come and meet Kent's wildlife specialists, and find out how to get more involved.

**Kent's Coastal Week, 23 - 31 October** (half term) will focus on the wildlife of our coast and sea.

There will be Kent Wildlife 2010 events in the Country Parks too.

Look out for details of all our Kent Wildlife 2010 events in the press and at [www.kent.gov.uk/kentwildlife](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kentwildlife)





# Deer delight at Knole



At this time of year, the hedgerows are popular with wintering thrushes that visit us all the way from Scandinavia. Look out for the redwing, with a scarlet patch on its side and the larger fieldfare, with its blue grey head and rump. These birds will be feeding before they head to woodland on the edge of the Arctic Circle to nest, leaving behind the resident song thrush and mistle thrush.

You can see wild deer running free in Knole Country Park and experience grandeur and stately nobility as you stroll past the splendid manor house and through the wild parkland where the estate's deer forage.

On this walk on one of the popular circular routes in the park, you will enjoy views across Kent's North Downs and appreciate the season and wildlife.

The route straddles the Greensand Way, which runs 108 miles from Haslemere in Surrey to Hamstreet in Kent. The section in Knole Park offers some spectacular sights and is a taster for the attractions of the whole route.

From the Leisure Centre follow the steep path through the metal gate into Knole Park. A stone icehouse that once served the main residence is visible on your right as you head up the slope and bear off to the right to walk in front of Knole's impressive façade. Wrought-iron gates in the walls offer views into the estate's gardens. Knole has always been known for its gardens. Archbishop Bourchier established a lavender garden and a small orchard near the house more than 500 years ago.

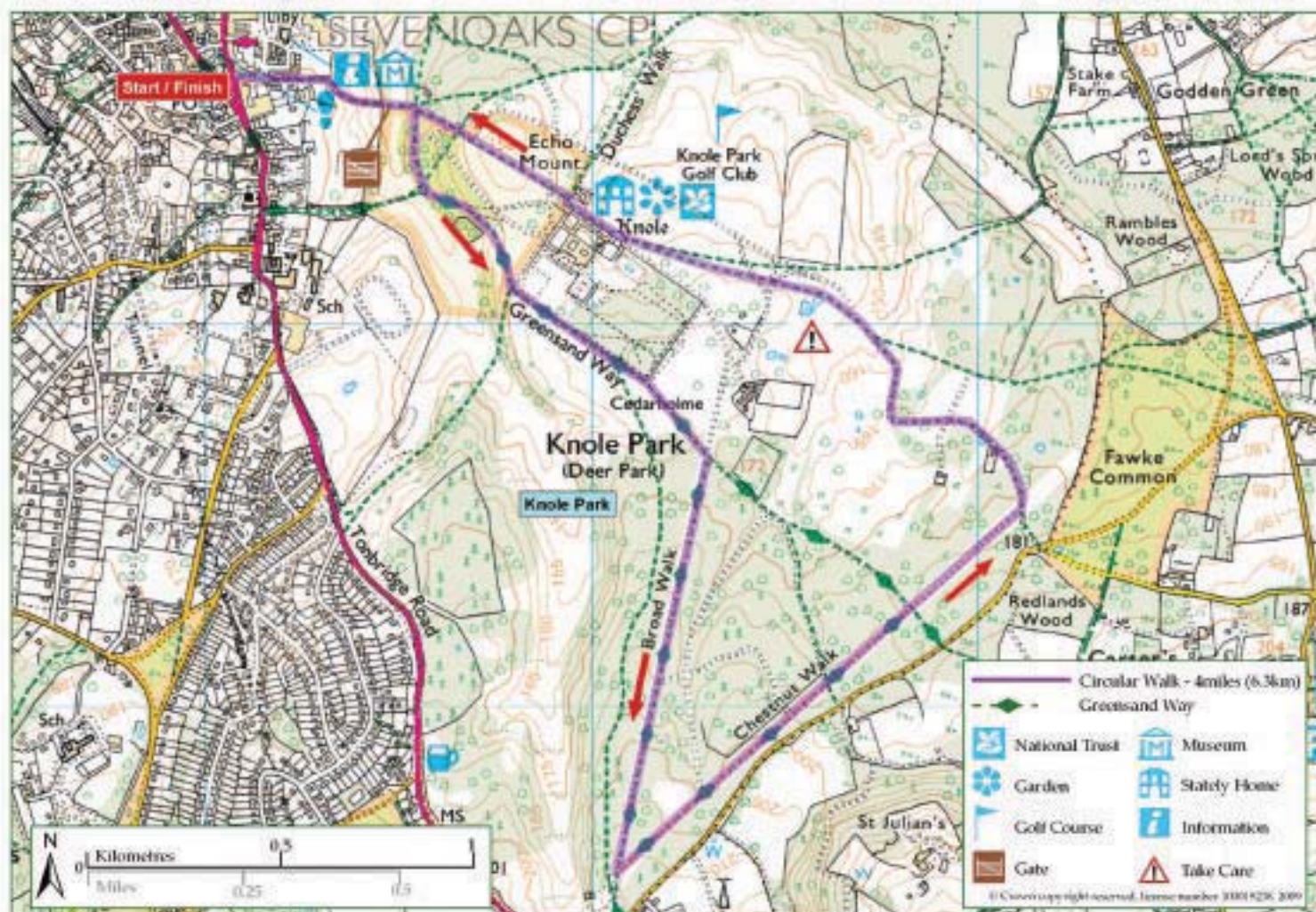
Leave the walls behind and cross the closely cropped grass into the open woodland. Hawthorn, oak, yew, hornbeam, silver birch, maple and ash trees abound here, varieties that once dominated the Weald.

## Did you know?

- ▶ Henry VIII liked Knole so much that he persuaded Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, to give it to him in 1538.
- ▶ The 17th century diarist John Evelyn was depressed by the greyness of this "greate old fashion'd house" and went outside to escape into the sunshine.
- ▶ Knole deer park, which covers 1,000 acres, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It is the only medieval deer park in Kent and one of only a few that has survived the past 500 years. In the 16th century there were 700 in England.
- ▶ Knole is the birthplace of the novelist, poet and gardener Vita Sackville-West. She wrote of the great house: "It has the tone of England; it melts into the green of the garden turf, into the tawnier green of the park beyond, into the blue of the pale English sky."
- ▶ The Sackville family gave Knole to the National Trust in 1946 with an endowment for its maintenance.

Explore Kent Walk





The flocks of parakeets that make their noisy way overhead are recent additions to the park, which has changed very little since the early 17th century. While many landowners set about designing and landscaping their parks, Knole was virtually untouched except for the planting of new avenues of broad-leaved trees to replace some of the old coppiced woodlands.

The National Trust tearooms are in a stone courtyard behind the main house. They offer a warm welcome and a short break before rejoining the path across the grass to return to the car park.

This is one of eight circular walks featured in the Greensand Way guidebook that is available in all good book shops.

## Walk Summary

**Location:** Sevenoaks

**Distance:** 3.9 miles (6.3km)

**Time:** Allow 2.5 hours

**OS Explorer Map:** 147

**Terrain:** Mainly surfaced with some field paths. Some moderate slopes.

**Stiles:** 0

**Steps:** 0

**Gates:** 1

**Step Count:** approximately 7,800

**Parking:** own centre car parks including the Leisure Centre (free on Sundays); Knole National Trust car park

**Refreshments and facilities:** Town centre cafés and public houses; Knole tea rooms

A free guide to walking the Kent section of the Greensand Way, from Westerham to Ide Hill, Sevenoaks Weald and Shipbourne, is available to download and print at home from our website.

For further information about walking, cycling and horse riding visit [www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent](http://www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent) or call 08458 247 600.





# Sustainability and Climate Change

## Helping schools save money and go green

We are helping schools to manage the amount of energy, water and resources they use more efficiently. This will help to reduce the school's financial costs and benefit the wider environment by reducing harmful emissions and preserving non-renewable resources.

The Carbon Trust estimates schools can reduce their energy bills by 10-20 per cent by being more energy efficient. Kent County Council's Energy Team works with schools to do this, and helps them raise the money they need to invest in the technology to save money and reduce the school's carbon footprint, for example by taking out an interest-free grant from the Energy and Water Investment Fund.

The first school to take out a loan was Mascalls School in Paddock Wood in 2006. They used it to buy new energy saving heating controls, and automatic lighting controls in a series of improvements that the school made. They achieved excellent environmental performance by paying attention to the simple things any organisation can do to reduce the school's carbon footprint, as well as the bigger one-off projects.



It is striking how well consideration of the environment and reducing waste is now part of this school's culture. It buys sustainably produced or recycled materials, like paper, uses low energy light bulbs and recycles printer inkjet cartridges.

Environmental awareness among students and staff is encouraged. A 'real-time' display in the school reception shows how much energy is being used and how much is generated from the solar panels and wind turbine. The school also uses its citizenship curriculum to teach students why it is important to save precious energy and water.

Guy Gore, the bursar at Mascalls School is delighted with the energy improvements made at the school. He said: "We look forward to a reduction in our energy bills. The work we have done to save energy and the wind turbine and solar panels will have long lasting educational benefits."

### Environmental improvement timeline

- 2006** Controls on the school's diesel boilers fitted, and movement and natural-light sensitive lighting installed.
- 2007** A system to shut down all computers automatically introduced.
- 2008** Windows double-glazed and automatic door closers fitted to keep heat in.
- 2009** Wind turbine and solar panels installed.



### About the Energy and Water Investment Fund

Loans are available to any Kent school that wants to improve its energy efficiency, save money and reduce their carbon footprint. So far 64 projects have been funded by an Energy Loan that will save an estimated £1.9 million and 14.9 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

To find out more about Energy Loans, contact the Energy Team at Kent County Council 08458 247 600.

it's not long until half term

here are some ideas to keep the children busy!

**Shorne Woods Country Park**  
Brewers Rd, Shorne, Gravesend, DA12 3HX

**Half Term Activity Trail, 13 to 21 February, 10 am - 3 pm**  
Follow the clues, answer the questions and complete the trail to receive a prize. £2.50 per child, under-18s must be accompanied. Booking essential on 01474 823800  
**Junior Rangers Next Box Challenge, Wednesday 17 February**  
10.00-12.00 and 13.00-15.00, £5.00  
Build your own nesting box for birds. Find out the best place to fix it, and about the birds that might use it. Every child will take home a nest box. For children 8-12 years only  
Please call 08458 247 600 to book

**Lullingstone Country Park**  
Eynsford, DA4 0JF

**Junior Rangers, Thursday 18 February,**  
10.00 - 15.00, £12.50  
Children aged 8 to 12 years can become a junior wildlife ranger for the day and take part in wildlife surveys, pond dipping, green games and woodland crafts.  
Please call 08458 247 600 to book

**Canterbury Environmental  
Education Centre**  
Canterbury CT2 7PX

**Junior Rangers, Tuesday 16 February,**  
10.00 - 15.00, £12.50  
Children aged 8 to 12 years can become a junior ranger for the day, visit the organic local allotments and do tasks on the nature reserve.  
Please call 08458 247 600 to book

[www.kent.gov.uk/kentcountryparks](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kentcountryparks)





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**WINNERS:** Lecturers with Ross Mills (front, second from right), Phillip Hadaway (front, third from right), and Lee Cripps (front, far right)

## Apprentices clean up at awards night

MIDKENT College has swept the board at the South East apprenticeship awards.

Electrical and plumbing students claimed more than £1,000 in prize funds after bagging first and second place in the JTL South East Regional Awards.

Maidstone-based electrician Ross Mills, 23, was named Best Apprentice and Medway-based student Phillip Hadaway

scooped second place. Lee Cripps was nominated for an award.

Stuart Nice, MidKent College's faculty head for construction and building services, said: "These awards honour the top electrical and plumbing apprentices in the region."

"It was fantastic to see three of our students nominated and even better to witness two being awarded winning trophies."

# Guidance crucial in search for a job

## Scheme to help people with learning difficulties into workplace

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

PEOPLE with learning disabilities are set to benefit from a new scheme aimed at training them and finding them employment.

Kent is one of just 14 places in the UK to be offered the new Project Search initiative which looks to ensure people with learning difficulties get the help they need to get a job.

But instead of attending college, students will go to an employer's premises and receive work-based guidance in a series of rotated internships and classroom learning.

Kent County Council and its in-house provider Kent Supported Employment will work with the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, Vista Leisure and Thanet College to provide the scheme.

The health Trust will offer the initial internships at QEQM hospital in Margate and Thanet College and Kent Supported Employment will provide skilled tutors and job coaches.

When training finishes, there will be some employment opportunities made available at Vista Leisure and the hospital Trust.

Graham Gibbens, Kent County Council cabinet member for Kent adult

social services, said it was important to remember that many people with learning difficulties want to work.

"This project offers a real chance for them to learn the skills that employers value and to get the best support to help them make their contribution to the Kent economy," he said.

"It will make sure that more people with learning difficulties get and keep real paid jobs."

He added that the authority is looking forward to working alongside the hospital trust, Vista Leisure and Thanet College.

### Support

"Bringing these organisations together with Kent Supported Employment at KCC will mean we will be able to give people with learning disabilities the support they need," he added.

Peter Murphy, director of HR and corporate affairs for East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, agreed the scheme was worthwhile.

"This initiative means we will be able to support a group in the community for whom opportunities can be limited," he said.

"We are looking forward to these individuals joining us in the near future when they will be supported and trained by staff from Kent County Council and Thanet College."

At a meeting regarding Project Search held in December, minister

for disabled people Jonathan Shaw spoke about the importance of getting people with learning difficulties into work.

Mr Shaw, who is also minister for the South East, said: "We realise only a small number of people with learning disabilities who receive adult social services are in work, and we know many more want real jobs."

"It's our duty to give them all the help and support they need to get into and stay in work."

"Project Search is a great opportunity to provide valuable internships and the real possibility of a job for people with learning disabilities."

• **For information email** [Kathryn.melling@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Kathryn.melling@kent.gov.uk)



## Chef trio set for team challenge

THREE budding chefs have made it through to the regional finals of the Brakes Student Team Chef Challenge.

Hospitality and catering students Michael Ellis, Christopher Davies and Chantelle Goodearl, based at MidKent College's Medway campus, were chosen from 65 teams entered across 38 colleges nationwide.

Judges Martin Bates, CEO of The Craft Guild of Chefs, and Mark Irish, head of Brakes Development Chefs department, said they were "incredibly impressed" with the standard of entries.

The students will now have to battle it out for a place in the national finals.

## Twins to take Army oath

TWO brothers are to swear their Oath of Allegiance to the Army next month after successfully completing their studies in public services.

Twenty-year-old twins James and Thomas White, from Dover, are joining the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment after completing the course at South Kent College.

The brothers carried out their studies with help from the British Army's Further Education Bursary Scheme.

The initiative selects students to receive £1,000 for each year of their studies at college and a further

£1,000 upon completion of the Army 14 basic training course.

Major Iain George, head of the further education bursary scheme in Kent, said it was an extremely beneficial way of preparing for a career in the Army, while getting paid for it.

He added: "As part of the scheme the student will also have a dedicated Army mentor and the opportunity to gain an insight into military life by attending an Army insight course."

• **For information about getting involved visit** [www.armyjobs.mod.uk/south](http://www.armyjobs.mod.uk/south)

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## Raising Your Game - Big Lottery 5 year project

Raising Your Game is a £4.9 million Lottery-Funded project delivered in partnership by Mencap, Nacro and Ican and will run between November 2009 and November 2014. It will be delivered in six pilot areas across England, including East Kent, and will work with all young people with learning disabilities between the ages of 14 and 25, including those who are at risk of, or are, currently offending to develop innovative ways of fully participating in their lives and services.

The post will be based in East Kent.

### Regional Co-ordinator (37.5 hours) £27,403

Actively helping young people work towards achieving their full potential you will work proactively with Nacro and one of our five other regional partners. You will also work alongside a young person appointed as Regional Learning Disability Consultant to the project.

*You will:*

- Develop and implement young peoples' participation standards across each region in years one and two;
- Identify and develop placement opportunities' and from the end of year two go on to place young people with a learning disability who are at risk of offending or who have offended.
- Identify and help organise opportunities for the young people involved to extend their skills and build upon their confidence, and so help diminish the likelihood of offending.

### Regional Learning Disability Consultant (16 hours) £17,727 pro rata

Having first-hand experience of what it is like to have a learning disability, you will support the Regional Coordinator to make information easy to understand, give presentations at conferences and events and give training to different groups. You will use your advocacy skills to tell people about the project and the needs of young people with a learning disability.

#### Equal Opportunities

Mencap aims to ensure that our jobs are open and accessible to all regardless of their gender, race, religion, sexuality, age or any other factor which might incur discrimination.

#### Applicants with disabilities

We are particularly keen in Mencap to promote the employment of people with a disability. Mencap will select for interview all applicants with a disability who meet the essential criteria for the job.

Appointments are subject to Mencap receiving an enhanced disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau which we consider appropriate

**Closing Date 4th February 2010**

**Interviews scheduled 15th& 16th February 2010**



For further information and to apply please visit our website at [www.mencap.org.uk](http://www.mencap.org.uk), email us at [Recruitment.CommunityAction@mencap.org.uk](mailto:Recruitment.CommunityAction@mencap.org.uk)

The above posts are funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund



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Basic salary of £10,856 - £13,000 • OTE £16 - £18k+ (basic salary and uncapped commission)

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What's more, it means a friendly working environment – as well as all the support you need to do a terrific job.

The question is, have you got what it takes? You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure.

If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve please write enclosing an application form, quoting reference SVS356/KOS to Mark Mear, Group Director of Sales, c/o Human Resources Department, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or email: [human.resources@saga.co.uk](mailto:human.resources@saga.co.uk) Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 29 January 2010.

**saga.co.uk**



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Enjoy working as part of a team in a fast paced environment?  
Want to be the best and be rewarded for it?  
Have a genuine interest in cars and customer service?  
Experience is preferred but not essential as full training will be given.

### Interested?

Please forward your C.V. and covering letter to  
Nicky Simmons, Head of H.R. Waters AutoPlanet, Bircholt Road,  
Parkwood, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9XY or email:  
nsimmons@argltd.co.uk Full UK driving licence essential.

All applications are treated in  
the strictest of confidence.  
We are an equal opportunities  
employer.



## ETHELBERT CHILDRENS SERVICES

*"Working and Caring for Children since 1972"*

### SOCIAL WORKER

Thanet

An exciting opportunity to join an **Outstanding** Independent Fostering Provider  
Ethelbert Childrens Services Fostering Team requires an appropriately qualified person to join  
their Team of Supervising Social Workers. Registration with the GSCC is essential as is the  
commitment to achieve the very best outcomes for children and young people in our care.  
The successful candidate can expect to receive a competitive salary and employment package.

For further information or an informal chat please call  
Lynn Wilkinson or Debi Atkin on 01843 229522.

*Closing Date: 31 January 2010*

Please visit our website for further information or contact  
the Personnel Department for an Application Form at  
Cheesmans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ  
01843 823762 or at [www.jobs.ethelbertonline.co.uk](http://www.jobs.ethelbertonline.co.uk)

Due to a recent increase in demand we also require

### FOSTER CARERS

Throughout Kent and SE London

We are seeking to recruit Foster individuals or couples who can show excellence in  
childcare or who have similar relevant experience or backgrounds.

Excellent supervision and 24 hour support, individualised professional training and more  
will be your reward for joining this Outstanding Team of Foster Carers.

Please contact Lynn Wilkinson or Debi Atkin on 01843 229522 for an  
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## MARKETING EXECUTIVE

**£15-£18K basic salary + bonus  
(Near Ashford)**

**Support local produce? Want to get involved with a fast growing  
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This is an exciting opportunity to join a fast growing online consumer  
business Food for Kent. Due to the current rapid expansion of Food for  
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We deliver high quality locally sourced food across Kent and London and  
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The successful candidate will play a key role in coordinating and delivering  
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communication and analysis.

The ideal candidate will ideally have:-

- 1 years marketing experience
- Excellent communication skills
- A high level of computer literacy

**This really is an exciting time to join  
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Apply now in writing to [info@foodforkent.co.uk](mailto:info@foodforkent.co.uk)**

Closing date for applications 30st January 2009.



## Faversham Residential Home

requires

### Care Assistants

to work on rota basis

Also required

### Weekend Domestic

9am – 2pm

For further details please telephone  
01795 532629 between 10am – 4pm

## J G Burgess & Co

Upton Lane  
Sittingbourne  
ME10 1JB

Position - Admin Assistant

Computer literacy essential and  
ability to perform a range of routine  
procedures in a busy office  
environment. Telephone and  
communication skills required.  
Team player able to support other  
members of staff.  
30 hours per week.  
Please enquire in writing only,  
enclosing CV.

To advertise in this section



**01303 817040**



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Join our award winning team and earn extra cash,  
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Rate of pay is £6.50 per hour plus mileage.

Initiative and smart appearance are the  
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If interested, please contact  
Barbara Coker on 01303 817072  
or email: [barbara.coker@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:barbara.coker@kosmedia.co.uk)

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## High Intensity Cognitive Behavioural Therapists

ONE FULL TIME & ONE PART TIME

£29,789 – £39,273 (PRO RATA FOR PART TIME) ESSENTIAL CAR ALLOWANCE OF  
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37.5 HOURS PER WEEK (FULL TIME) • 26 HOURS PER WEEK (PART TIME)  
BASED MEDWAY

KCA provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental  
health services. We provide a strong departmental framework with  
regular clinical supervision, line management, monthly team meetings  
and effective administration and opportunities for further training and  
career development.

We require two Cognitive Behavioural Therapists to join our Improving  
Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service within KCA's Psychological  
Therapy Providers (PTP) team. You will be providing high intensity CBT  
interventions for a range of common mental health problems. You will also  
provide line management to a number of Psychological Wellbeing  
Practitioners as well as an advisory service to IAPT colleagues on matters  
related to practice and delivery of CBT to individuals accessing the service in  
line with IAPT guidelines and best practice. The role may include group work,  
if the post holder is qualified and competent.

A diploma in cognitive behavioural therapy is essential, and the applicant  
must be accredited, or working towards accreditation with the BABCP.  
Some evening and weekend work may also be required.

To discuss this post informally please contact the Operations Manager,  
Kerry Smith on 07779 658886 (Monday to Thursday).

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from  
[www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk) or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 630.

Closing date: 12 February 2010.

Interview date: w/c 22 February 2010 in Medway.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all.  
Charity No: 292824

[www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk)



## Thomas MOT Technician

required for local Fuel Injection Garage  
We are seeking a qualified technician with  
proven experience to undertake the following:

**MOT Testing  
Vehicle Servicing  
Diagnostics and subsequent repairs  
Clean current driving licence required  
Basic IT skills required**

Working hours:

Mon- Fri - 8.00 to 5.00

Sat morning 8.00 to 12.00 (1 off per month)

Contact: [kathy@thomasautos.co.uk](mailto:kathy@thomasautos.co.uk)

## Housekeeper

A professional couple based in central Tunbridge Wells  
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10-12 hours per week covering the following duties:

- General cleaning and housework
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- Dry cleaning drop off/collection
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If you are interested in this role please send a letter  
explaining why you feel you would be suited to the role to  
[ask@hradvise.me](mailto:ask@hradvise.me) or write to HR Advise Me Ltd, 15-17  
Mount Ephraim Road, Tunbridge Wells. TN1 1EN.

Competitive rate of pay offered, working hours to be agreed.

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**COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS  
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Whitehouse Maidstone Chrysler Jeep and  
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track record in the motor trade.

A competitive salary is offered together with on  
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holiday per annum.

To apply or for more information call  
**Mark Wood** on [markwood@whitehousegroup.co.uk](mailto:markwood@whitehousegroup.co.uk)  
or send your CV to  
**Whitehouse Maidstone, 1-17 The Broadway,  
Maidstone, Kent ME16 8QX**

## PARTS ADVISOR

Based in Maidstone

Whitehouse Maidstone is looking for a  
Parts Advisor with either Crystler, Jeep or  
Hyundai experience.

A competitive salary is offered with 22 days  
holiday per annum.

To apply please submit your CV via email to  
[darren.fiddes@whitehousegroup.co.uk](mailto:darren.fiddes@whitehousegroup.co.uk)  
or by post to  
**Whitehouse Maidstone,  
1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone,  
Kent, ME16 8QX**



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6 weeks ago we advertised probably the BEST job ever.

The lucky candidates are now making in excess of £700+ pw OTE. We now need 5 more. If you have a car and phone, call for more info -

**0800 840 1289**

*No experience necessary as full training can be provided.*

### Opus Care require:

**A Deputy Manager - RGN**

**A Unit Manager – RGN  
F/T & P/T RGNs (Days & Nights)**

For full details, telephone  
The Manager, Julie Caine on  
**01233 643555**

## ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

Based in Maidstone

Whitehouse Maidstone is looking for an Accounts Assistant for 2 days per week.

Flexible time on Tuesday and Wednesday. Experience of working in accounts is necessary.

To apply please submit your CV via email to [Yvonne.root@whitehousegroup.co.uk](mailto:Yvonne.root@whitehousegroup.co.uk) or by post to

**Whitehouse Maidstone, 1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 8QX**

**Bethany Lodge  
Require  
Weekend Cook**

8.00am to 2:00pm  
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For more information  
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Tel: 01303 872289

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Experienced Stylists  
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Self-Employed basis.  
Contact Claire on  
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**Requires a  
Flexi RN**

**Must be available  
for nights and  
weekends.  
Good working  
conditions.**

**Tel: 01843 833242**  
Subject to CRB disclosure.

**Experienced  
Sewing Machinists**

**required for  
Clothing Factory**

Full-time.  
Gillingham area.  
Please call 01634 843181  
or email  
[ella@raynerandsturges.com](mailto:ella@raynerandsturges.com)

**KEARSNEY  
MANOR  
NURSING HOME**

**Registered  
Nurse**

**This Dover nursing  
home requires a  
Flexi day RN.**

**Please ring  
Tel: 01304 822135  
For an  
Application Form.**

(This post will be subject  
to satisfactory references,  
CRB and POVA checks)

Architectural metalwork & structural steelwork company specialising in stainless steel, aluminium and mild steel looking for

## Fabricator / Welder

The successful candidate must :-

- Be an experienced tradesperson who can read, understand and fabricate to a high standard from detailed drawings.
- Be able to use both MIG and TIG technologies to complete numerous projects including stair-cases, balustrading, handrails and canopies.
- Be self-motivated and able to work on their own initiative or as part of a team.

Please apply in writing to :-

**Porters Craft Limited**

Unit 1C Jetty Road, Kingsnorth Industrial Estate, Hoo Rochester, Kent ME3 9ND

E Mail : [info@porterscraft.co.uk](mailto:info@porterscraft.co.uk) Web Site : [www.porterscraft.co.uk](http://www.porterscraft.co.uk)

Telephone : 01634 • 255725 Facsimile : 01634 • 254427

## Outgoing? Determined? Tenacious? Great Communicator? Self Motivated?

If this describes you then you could be the person we are looking for to join our sales team at KOS Media as a

### TELEPHONE SALES EXECUTIVE

Based at our offices in Smeeth, Ashford, working as part of our sales team, the person we are looking for will be responsible for looking after our existing advertisers as well as developing and increasing our client base. In return we offer a good basic salary, a performance related bonus earning opportunity and five weeks annual holiday.

KOS Media is one of the fastest-growing, independent regional media companies in Britain which publishes **Kent on Saturday** the award winning **Kent on Sunday** and ten **Yourlocal** titles, along with seasonal and annual magazines.

If you feel you can meet and exceed these qualities and expectations then apply in writing to:-

**Ynez Coton, Associate Director,**  
KOS Media Ltd.,  
Apple Barn, Hythe Road,  
Smeeth, Ashford, Kent. TN25 6SR

Or e-mail [ynnez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:ynnez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk)



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## The smart way to find a job in the County

### The following staff are required for a small children's home in the Swanley area:

**Senior Residential Childcare Workers** (dependent on qualifications and experience)

- Qualified to NVQ 3 Health and Social Care, Children and Young People or equivalent
- Minimum of one year working in a Residential Children's Home at a senior level essential.

**Residential Childcare Workers** (dependent on qualifications and experience)

- Experience of working in a Children's home essential

#### Waking Night Officers

- Experience of working in a Children's home is essential

**Part time Residential Child Care Worker** (Tuesdays 8.30am – 4.30pm) this is NOT a term time only role. This role will involve supporting the teaching staff/ care staff in the home and school, including teaching assistant duties. All candidates for all posts **MUST** have a current enhanced CRB and be able to drive.

**Experience and confidence of working with children with challenging behaviour is essential and all candidates will be short listed on this area of expertise.**

**In return we will offer:** • Challenging and varied work • Full Induction program  
• Regular professional supervision • Full training package including professional qualification

For an informal discussion and an application form, please call: **01474 871999**

Or go to [www.jandrcareltd.co.uk](http://www.jandrcareltd.co.uk) where you can download a job description and application form. If you would like to email the completed application form, please send to [jnparish@aol.com](mailto:jnparish@aol.com)



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## SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS OPEN DAY

**Wednesday 27 January • 4.30pm – 6.30pm**

**At Cheriton Parc House, High Street, Cheriton, Folkestone CT18 8AN**

Here at Direct Choice, we're the growing business that delivers great value insurance products over the phone and online. Having been in the area for six months now, we're going from strength to strength and have some terrific career opportunities.

For our team, success is all about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and providing a brilliant service. If that sounds like your kind of company, then come along to our **open day**. Find out how you could help us build the future of our new contact centre at the former Eurotunnel offices just off the M20 in Cheriton, 20 minutes from Ashford.

For both roles, there will be full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. So while contact centre experience would be ideal, it's certainly not essential if you've excellent communication skills and a helpful personality. As part of the Acromas family – that also includes Saga and The AA – we offer a basic salary plus uncapped commission, outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package.

If you can't make the open day, we'd still like to hear from you. To apply for either of the positions, call 01303 774888 for an application form and post to Roisin McCrudden, HR Officer, Direct Choice, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. Alternatively, email your CV to [recruitment@directchoice.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@directchoice.co.uk). Please quote reference DC361/KOS.

[www.directchoice.com](http://www.directchoice.com)





# Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: [www.jobsforkent.co.uk](http://www.jobsforkent.co.uk)

KOSMEDIA

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Fax: 01303 817004

Email: [appointments@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:appointments@kosmedia.co.uk)Online: [www.jobsforkent.co.uk](http://www.jobsforkent.co.uk)

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEOM Hospital site. We also have a 5 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

## ENDOSCOPY SISTER – (Margate)

25 hrs per week

Previous applicants for the above post need not apply.

## Dual Trained Nurse (Margate)

30 hrs per week

## Paediatric Nurses (Margate/Ashford)

Flexi Bank

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Vicky Smith or Mary Guarnieri - 01843 234555 Ext: 62207 (Margate)

Debbie Burr – 01233 616202 (Ashford)

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards

East Kent Medical Services Ltd

The Spencer Wing, QEOM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG

Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333

E-mail: [mandy.oliver@thespencerwing.com](mailto:mandy.oliver@thespencerwing.com)

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer

These positions are subject to a

Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check



## Saint George's

Church of England School Humanities College

Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS

Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 561536

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College

11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

## Teaching Assistant (Behaviour)

KS4 Pts 11-14 £15,984 - £16,793

30 hours per week, 39 weeks per year

(Pro-Rata pay £10,936 - £11,490)

We are seeking an experienced Teaching Assistant to join our team.

We are looking for someone who has:

- The ability to work constructively with young people and to manage challenging behaviour
- A patient, calm and positive approach
- The ability to apply firm and consistent boundaries

Saint George's C of E School is committed to promoting equality of opportunity, celebrating diversity and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Previous applicants need not apply.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email [dhariwall@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk](mailto:dhariwall@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk) or visit our website [www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk](http://www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk)

Closing Date : 10 February 2010



Beech Road, East Malling, Kent, ME19 6DH 01732 840995

## MPS Teacher + SEN 1

Enthusiastic, innovative teacher to join dedicated, supportive staff of Tydeman Centre within mainstream secondary school.

Ability to teach variety of subjects to small groups with dyslexia, speech & language, autistic spectrum disorders. To deliver individual tutorial programme to small tutor group.

Primary or Secondary experience; interest in Maths, Science or ASDAN advantage. Specialist training offered.

Tydeman Centre 'outstanding' - OFSTED April 2009

Contact Ann Noble to visit.

Further details / forms from career opportunities link on website: [www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk](http://www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk)

Applications to Elaine Greenwood

[elaine.greenwood@mhffederation.co.uk](mailto:elaine.greenwood@mhffederation.co.uk)

by Friday 29 January 2010

To advertise in this section

**01303 817040**

## New Year, New Challenge

MidKent College have exciting one year secondment opportunities for the following positions:

**Assistant Principal (£63K)** negotiable subject to experience.

**Head of Faculty (£46K)** negotiable subject to experience.

**Teacher Coach (£33K)** negotiable subject to experience.

MidKent College is a large, successful FE College operating on two main campuses in Medway and Maidstone. Our state of the art, £86 million Medway campus is next door to the Royal School of Military Engineering where the College is training all their soldiers in Construction & Engineering under a 30-year contract.

Our recent OFSTED Inspection described the College as 'good' overall with 'outstanding' capacity to improve. We would like to accelerate our improvement agenda by seconding individuals who will relish the chance to undertake a specific improvement project within the College in areas such as A levels, Skills for Life, Construction, Engineering, Teaching and Learning. Whether you are already in FE, working in a school or Sixth Form College, or working elsewhere in education, this is an ideal opportunity to develop your skills in a supportive environment working alongside some high quality senior leaders.

We particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups and will meet reasonable living expenses for staff who live outside the area.

The roles above are the indicative levels that we seek secondments at. There is, however, some scope for flexibility for high calibre individuals who can help us on our journey to be "outstanding"!

If you are interested in knowing more please contact our retained consultant Ken Pullan on 07725 128661 or by email [ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk)



**MidKent College**

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

## Thanet is a beautiful place to work



Thanet is a great place to live and work. Our historic seaside towns of Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs are rich in heritage and opportunity. From the multi-million pound Turner Contemporary Gallery, the fast speed rail link to London, and the popular Westwood Cross shopping centre - this is an exciting time to join Thanet District Council. We are determined to improve the quality of life for local people. We believe that by listening to local people, working in active partnership and by being prepared to do things in an innovative way we can accelerate improvement and best meet the challenges ahead.

### Committee Services Manager

Salary £29,595 to £35,007 per annum

Under the guidance of the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, this post will be responsible for managing a small team of officers providing committee and scrutiny services, and will contribute to relevant projects, such as the updating of the Council's constitution and the development of a Member learning & development strategy. Applicants need to be educated to degree level and have considerable experience of committee and scrutiny services, including management experience.

### Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer

Salary £26,940 to £30,738 per annum

This post provides an exciting opportunity for someone with an interest in policy review, because roughly half of the time the post holder will support the Council's overview and scrutiny function. That involves bringing together the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel investigating local issues, the Cabinet Members that take the decisions and the Directors that advise them. A mature approach to undertaking the work is essential, to ensure the scrutiny role adds value to the Council's achievements. The remainder of the time the post holder will provide more general support to some of the Council's other committees, arranging and attending meetings, and taking minutes. Applicants need to be educated to degree level or equivalent.

The closing date for both positions is: Friday 12 February 2010  
Interviews will be held: Tuesday 2 or Wednesday 3 March 2010

For an informal discussion about both positions, please contact Glenn Back on 01843 577187

All posts include generous annual leave, flexible working, a 37-hour week, subsidised bus pass, as well as access to the local government final salary pension scheme.

For an application form and job description for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on (01843) 577175 (24 hours), e-mail [jobs.hrpartnership@doover.gov.uk](mailto:jobs.hrpartnership@doover.gov.uk) or, download an application form from [www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs). Applications to be returned to: East Kent H R Partnership, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, Dover CT16 3PJ

Thanet District Council is an equal opportunities employer committed to employing people with disabilities. Any disabled applicant who meets the minimum criteria for the posts will be guaranteed an interview.





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## Accommodation Manager

Churchill House is a private school offering English courses to international students throughout the year in Ramsgate plus summer junior courses at centres throughout the UK.

Under the direction of the Accommodation Manager the provision of family homestay accommodation is an integral part of all courses. Responsibilities include selection and management of families, student placement, planning, staffing, quality management.

The successful candidate will have skills in these specific areas, a proven management record, an ability to excel under extreme pressure and excellent communication skills. Self motivation and a passion for maximising customer satisfaction are fundamental requirements and will be rewarded with a salary commensurate with relevant experience.

Full CV and current salary to Churchill House,  
Ramsgate, CT11 9EQ Deborah.Cook@churchillhouse.co.uk



## DOVER GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Business and Enterprise College  
International Baccalaureate World School

### Early Intervention Project Worker WAVE Project

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Dover Grammar School for Boys</b>
<b>Salary</b>	<b>£17,140 -</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Poltons Family Centre, Dover</b>
<b>Hours</b>	<b>37 hours per week</b>
<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>4 February 2010 at Midday</b>
	<b>1 year fixed term contract or secondment opportunity</b>

We are looking for a motivated person who is committed to supporting children, young people and families with a range of additional needs.

WAVE is a multi agency, early intervention project. It is managed by a Principle Social Worker, there are 2 Primary Mental Health Workers and 3 WAVE Project Workers in the team.

You will be expected to work with primary children and young people, parents/carers in a variety of settings in school and in the community. You will be working with professionals from voluntary and statutory agencies across both the Dover, Deal and Sandwich Partnerships.

You will be delivering support that will promote the social, emotional, and behavioural needs of children and families in accordance with the Every Child Matters agenda.

You must be able to plan, prepare and deliver direct work in home and school settings and plan and facilitate group work. Experience of work within a school and family setting is essential.

You will encourage independence, resilience and good emotional wellbeing through understanding normal child development, attachment theory and emotional literacy, and have the ability to effectively communicate with children and young people, their parents/carers and professionals from other agencies.

You must have a flexible approach, a sound values base and be able to work effectively in a team as well as independently and have a commitment to equal opportunities, good time management and organisational skills, which will include good record keeping skills and the ability to communicate clearly in writing.

You will be expected to travel throughout the district in undertaking your work.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

**THIS POST IS NOT TERM TIME ONLY**

**For a Job description and application form please contact  
Jayne Bradshaw on 01304-861616.**

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www.education-sense.com



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## NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ  
Tel: 0844 477 2525 Fax: 01474 335058

We are a highly successful and ambitious school. As part of the Building Schools for the Future and transforming learning initiative our school has undergone dramatic change. Our staff needs reflect that and to ensure that our students receive the best support we are currently seeking to employ:

### EXAMINATIONS SECRETARY

£7,498 to £8,425 p.a. 20 hours per week

Term time plus support for examination results

Salary Scale Kent Scheme Grade 5 £16,440 to £18,471 full time equivalent

The post holder will support the smooth running of all aspects of all in school examinations and the accurate recording of pupil attainment for statutory and in-school assessments. Must be computer literate with a good knowledge of SIMS and Microsoft packages and an ability to communicate and co-operate effectively at all levels, with tact and diplomacy.

### ACADEMIC COACH in MATHEMATICS

£13,872 to £15,586 p.a. 37 hours per week

Term time only (39 weeks per year) 8.15 a.m. start

Salary Scale Kent Scheme Grade 5 £16,440 to £18,471 full time equivalent

To work with the more able individuals and groups of students to motivate and ensure adequate challenge, in order that students meet their targets and that any barriers to learning are overcome. You will work as part of a domain focused curriculum team, and be educated to at least A Level standard in mathematics.

### LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

£11,391 to £11,968 p.a. 31.25 hours per week

Term time only (39 weeks per year) 8.30 a.m. to 3.15 p.m.

Salary Scale Kent Scheme Grade 4 £15,984 to £16,793

Learning Support Assistant to work with students who have identified social and emotional behavioural needs. The ideal candidate will have experience of working with adolescents or within a school, possibly with ASD or similar diagnosis, and be able to provide evidence of good levels of literacy and numeracy.

All positions require a flexible approach to working, the ability to work as part of a team as well as under your own initiative and good communication skills at all levels are essential. Appointment will be subject to full enhanced CRB check.

Full job descriptions available on request. To apply please submit a full C.V. to Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ Tel: 0844 477 2525 or e-mail personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications : 31 January 2010

## Teachers Needed Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✓ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✓ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✓ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
- ✓ Free use of resource centre
- ✓ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information  
and to register with us, please call us free on:

0800 731 6871

or email

enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

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## TEACHERS AND COVER SUPERVISORS URGENTLY REQUIRED

MAIDSTONE, ASHFORD,  
MEDWAY TOWNS, THANET  
& DARTFORD AREAS

Call and speak with friendly, qualified education staff



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website: **www.termtimeteachers.co.uk**

e-mail: **office@termtimeteachers.co.uk**

To advertise in this section



**01303 817040**

### Mid-day Supervisor

Required for small village school.  
Immediate start, subject to necessary safeguarding checks.  
Contact: Helen Randall (Secretary)  
01732 822803  
Trottscliffe CE Primary School



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# JobsforKent.co.uk

## Administration, Secretarial, PA

### Administrator and PA to Doctor

**Canterbury**  
**Salary:** TBC  
**Closing Date:** 12/02/10  
 Full-time/ Part-time/Jobshare  
 Are you looking for a change in direction or looking to take a new route with your skills? An opportunity has arisen within a rapidly expanding, exceptional health centre. The position is extremely sought after and is available immediately.  
 Administrator and PA to Doctor of a rapidly expanding health care practice. We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics) Basic computer skills are preferable: Proficient user of Sage 50 and Microsoft Office, particularly Word, Excel and Publisher • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient • Work well solo • Thrives on self improvement and success  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Practice Manager  
 Wellness Practice  
**Quoting Job Ref:** ISC1  
 Tel: 01227 789977  
 Email admin@ideals  
 pinecentre.co.uk

### Receptionist / Customer Service

**Canterbury**  
**Salary:** negotiable  
**Closing Date:** 12/02/10  
 FULL-TIME OR JOBSHARE can you Provide excellent service "Walt Disney style"? Are you • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient • Work well solo • Thrive on self improvement and success? Then we have the job for you!! We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics). Basic computer skills are preferable. No experience necessary as full training will be given. Apply for this position if you consider yourself to be confident and outgoing. If you think you have what we are looking for, please apply in writing with your CV to: Practice Manager, The Wellness Practice Ltd, Blean, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 9EB.  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Practice Manager  
 Wellness Practice  
**Quoting Job Ref:** cust 001  
 Tel: 01227 789977  
 Email admin@ideals  
 pinecentre.co.uk

### BOOKINGS ADMINISTRATOR

**Tunbridge Wells**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 BOOKINGS ADMINISTRATOR needed at our Pembury office for our Insulation Division to liaise with customers, schedule team workloads, maintain customer/job database, and produce management information, so a talent for working accurately is more important than speed. Our customers will depend on you as the backbone of our survey and installation teams so an excellent memory and ability to multi-task would help! Previous office experience with knowledge of Word/Excel is essential. This full-time, permanent position would be ideal for someone who would enjoy working in farm surroundings. Tel. Anne on 07803 928320 in confidence for further information.  
 www.skinnerandreeves.com  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Skinner & Reeves  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 07803 928320  
 Email

anne@skinnerandreeves.com

### Admin Assistant

**Sittingbourne**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 Admin Assistant Computer literacy essential and ability to perform a range of routine procedures in a busy office environment. Telephone and communication skills required. Team player able to support other members of staff. Please enquire in writing only, enclosing a comprehensive CV. J G Burgess & Co Upton Lane, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1JB  
**To apply/more information:**  
 JG Burgess  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

## Catering, Hospitality

### Front of House Supervisor

**Thanet**  
**Salary:** TBA  
**Closing Date:** 25 February 2010  
 Due to restructuring of our restaurant facilities we now have vacancies for Front of House Supervisor and Assistant and Sous Chef For an application form please apply to:- Mr M P Harman, Managing Director, QME Limited Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex Park, Birchington, Kent, CT7 0BH enquiries@quexmuseum.org or call:01843 842 168  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Quex Museum Enterprises Ltd  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01843 842168  
 Email enquiries@quexmuseum.org

### Front of House Assistant

**Thanet**  
**Salary:** TBA  
**Closing Date:** 25 February 2010  
 Due to restructuring of our restaurant facilities we now have vacancies for Front of House Supervisor and Assistant and Sous Chef For an application form please apply to:- Mr M P Harman, Managing Director, QME Limited Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex Park, Birchington, Kent, CT7 0BH enquiries@quexmuseum.org or call:01843 842 168  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Quex Museum Enterprises Ltd  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01843 842168  
 Email enquiries@quexmuseum.org

### Sous Chef

**Thanet**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 Due to restructuring of our restaurant facilities we now have vacancies for Front of House Supervisor and Assistant and Sous Chef For an application form please apply to:- Mr M P Harman, Managing Director, QME Limited Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex Park, Birchington, Kent, CT7 0BH enquiries@quexmuseum.org or call:01843 842 168  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Quex Museum Enterprises Ltd  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01843 842168  
 Email enquiries@quexmuseum.org

### Weekend Cook

**Romney Marsh**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 Bethany Lodge Require Weekend Cook 8.00am to 2:00pm Saturday and Sunday For more information Please call Paul Mills Tel: 01303 872289  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Bethany Lodge/Bethany House  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01303 872289  
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

## Child Care

### FOSTER CARERS

**Kent**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 Due to a recent increase in demand we also require FOSTER CARERS Throughout Kent and SE London We are seeking to recruit Foster individuals or couples who can show excellence in childcare or who have similar relevant experience or backgrounds. Excellent supervision and 24 hour support, individualised professional training and more will be your reward for joining this Outstanding Team of Foster Carers. Please contact Lynn Wilkinson or Debi Atkin on 01843 229522 for an informal discussion and an application pack or find us at www.ethelbert.net  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Ethelbert Children's Services  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01843 229522  
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

## Customer Service, Call Centre

### SALES and CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS

**Folkestone**  
**Salary:** TBA  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Saga  
**Quoting Job Ref:** DC361/KOS  
 Tel: 01303 774888  
 Email recruitment@directchoice.co.uk

## Domestic

### Office Cleaner

**Tunbridge Wells**  
**Salary:** £60 Per week  
 Office Cleaner, 07:00 – 09:00, Tunbridge Wells, £60pw. Tel: 01622 882492.  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Minster Cleaning Services  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01622 882492  
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

### Weekend Domestic

**Faversham**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 Faversham Residential Home Weekend Domestic 9am – 3pm For further details, please telephone 01795 532629 Between 10am – 4pm  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Carnalea Residential Home  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01795 532629  
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

### Housekeeper

**Tunbridge Wells**  
**Salary:** TBA  
**To apply/more information:**  
 HR Advise Me Ltd  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Email ask@hradvise.me

## Education, Teacher, School

### Assistant Principal

**Medway**  
**Salary:** £63,000  
 MidKent College have exciting one year secondment opportunities for the following positions: Assistant Principal (£63k) negotiable subject to experience. MidKent College is a large, successful FE College operating on two main campuses in Medway and Maidstone. Our state of the art, £86 million Medway campus is next door to the Royal School of Military Engineering where the College is training all their soldiers in Construction & Engineering under a 30-year  
**To apply/more information:**

Mid Kent College  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 07725 128661  
 Email ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

### Head of Faculty

**Medway**  
**Salary:** £46,000  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Mid Kent College  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 07725 128661  
 Email ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

### Teacher Coach

**Medway**  
**Salary:** £33,000  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Mid Kent College  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 07725 128661  
 Email ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

### EXAMINATIONS SECRETARY

**Dartford**  
**Salary:** £7,498 to £8,425 p.a.  
**Closing Date:** 31 January 2010  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Northfleet School for Girls  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 0844 4772525  
 Email personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

### ACADEMIC COACH in MATHEMATICS

**Dartford**  
**Salary:** £13,872 to £15,586 p.a.  
**Closing Date:** 31 January 2010  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Northfleet School for Girls  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 0844 4772525  
 Email personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

### LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

**Dartford**  
**Salary:** £11,391 to £11,968 p.a.  
**Closing Date:** 31 January 2010  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Northfleet School for Girls  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 0844 4772525  
 Email personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

### ACCOMMODATION MANAGER

**Thanet**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 Churchill House is a private school offering English courses to international students throughout the year in Ramsgate plus summer junior courses at centres throughout the UK. Under the direction of the Accommodation Manager the provision of family homestay accommodation is an integral part of all courses. Responsibilities include selection and management of families, student placement, planning, staffing, quality management. The successful candidate will have skills in these specific areas, a proven management record, an ability to excel under extreme pressure and excellent communication skills. Self motivation and a passion for maximising customer satisfaction are fundamental requirements and will be rewarded with a salary commensurate with relevant experience. Full CV and current salary to Churchill House Ramsgate, CT11 9EQ Deborah.Cook@churchillhouse.co.uk  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Churchill House School of English  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Email Deborah.Cook@churchillhouse.co.uk

### MPS Teacher and SEN 1

**Maidstone**  
**Salary:** TBA  
**Closing Date:** Friday 29 January 2010  
 MPS Teacher + SEN 1  
 Enthusiastic, innovative teacher

to join dedicated, supportive staff of Tydeman Centre within mainstream secondary school. Ability to teach variety of subjects to small groups with dyslexia, speech & language, autistic spectrum disorders. To deliver individual tutorial programme to small tutor group. Primary or Secondary experience; interest in Maths, Science or ASDAN advantage. Specialist training offered. Tydeman Centre 'outstanding' - OFSTED April 2009 Contact Ann Noble to visit. Further details / forms from career opportunities link on website: www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk Applications to Elaine Greenwood elaine.greenwood@mhfederatio n.co.uk by Friday 29 January 2010  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Malling School (The)  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Email elaine.greenwood@mhfederatio n.co.uk

### Early Intervention Project Worker WAVE

**Dover**  
**Salary:** £17,140  
**Closing Date:** 4 February 2010 at Midday  
 Early Intervention Project Worker WAVE Project Employer Dover Grammar School for Boys Salary £17,140 - Location Pottions Family Centre, Dover Hours 37 hours per week Closing Date 4 February 2010 at Midday 1 year fixed term contract or secondment opportunity We are looking for a motivated person who is committed to supporting children, young people and families with a range of additional needs. WAVE is a multi agency, early intervention project. It is managed by a Principle Social Worker, there are 2 Primary Mental Health Workers and 3 WAVE Project Workers in the team. You will be expected to work with primary children and young people, parents/carers in a variety of settings in school and in the community. You will be working with professionals from voluntary and statutory agencies across both the Dover, Deal and Sandwich Partnerships. You will be delivering support that will promote the social, emotional, and behavioural needs of children and families in accordance with the Every Child Matters agenda. You must be able to plan, prepare and deliver direct work in home and school settings and plan and facilitate group work. Experience of work within a school and family setting is essential. You will encourage independence, resilience and good emotional wellbeing through understanding normal child development, attachment theory and emotional literacy, and have the ability to effectively communicate with children and young people, their parents/carers and professionals from other agencies. You must have a flexible approach, a sound values base and be able to work effectively in a team as well as independently and have a commitment to equal opportunities, good time management and organisational skills, which will include good record keeping skills and the ability to communicate clearly in writing. You will be expected to travel throughout the district in undertaking your work. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau. THIS POST IS NOT TERM TIME ONLY For a Job description and application form please contact Jayne Bradshaw on 01304-861616.  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Dover Grammar School for Boys  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01304 861616  
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

### Teaching Assistant (Behaviour)

**Gravesend**  
**Salary:** Pro-Rata pay £10,936 - £11,490  
**Closing Date:** 10 February 2010  
**To apply/more information:**  
 St George's CoE School  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Email dharival@ saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk

### Mid-day Supervisor

**Maidstone**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 Mid-day Supervisor Required for small village school. Immediate start, subject to necessary safeguarding checks. Contact Helen Randall (Secretary) 01732 822803 Trottscliffe CE Primary School  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Trottscliffe CEP School  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01732 822803  
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

## Estate Agency, Property

### Mortgage Consultant

**Bexley**  
**Salary:** On target earnings of £40K + p.a.  
 Due to further expansion, Mortgage Find are currently looking for a highly motivated, qualified Mortgage Consultant to work with our existing team, within one of Kent's leading Estate Agency Branches. With on target earnings in the region of £40K + p.a. Call Mark Alexander on 01322 558877  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Mark Alexander  
 Mortgage Find  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01322 558877  
 Email mark.alexander@mortgagefind.co.uk

## Leisure, Tourism, Travel

### Experienced Stylists

**Chatham**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 En-Vi Experienced Stylists (male and female) required for Salon. Self-Employed basis. Contact Claire on 01634 840880

**To apply/more information:**  
 En-Vi  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01634 840880  
 Email claire1ice@hotmail.co.uk

## Motor Trade, Driver

### TECHNICIAN

**Maidstone**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 TECHNICIAN REQUIRED (FULLY SKILLED) Based in Maidstone Whitehouse Maidstone is looking for a fully skilled technician preferably with Chrysler Jeep or Hyundai experience. Salary is negotiable with on target bonus offered together with 22 days holiday per annum. To apply or for more information call Dennis Crighton on 01622 886864 or send your CV to Whitehouse Maidstone, 1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone, Kent ME16 80X.  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Whitehouse Jeep Maidstone  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: 01622 886864  
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

### Sales Executives

**Maidstone**  
**Salary:** OTE £50k+  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Autoplanet Automotive Retail Group  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Email nsimmons@argitd.co.uk

### EXPERIENCE CAR SALES EXECUTIVE

**Maidstone**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 EXPERIENCE CAR SALES EXECUTIVE Based in Maidstone Whitehouse Maidstone Chrysler Jeep and Hyundai dealership, is looking for an experienced car sales executive with proven track record in the motor trade. A competitive salary is offered together with on target bonus, company vehicle and 22 days holiday per annum. To apply or for more information call Mark Wood on markwood@whitehousegroup.co.uk or send your CV to Whitehouse Maidstone, 1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone, Kent ME16 80X  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Whitehouse Jeep Maidstone  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Email markwood@whitehousegroup.co.uk

### MOT Technician

**Ashford**  
**Salary:** TBA  
 MOT Technician required for local Fuel Injection Garage We are seeking a qualified technician with proven experience to undertake the following: MOT Testing Vehicle Servicing Diagnostics and subsequent repairs Clean current driving licence required Basic IT skills required Working hours: Mon- Fri - 8.00 to 5.00 Sat morning 8.00 to 12.00 (1 off per month) Contact: Kathy Hodgson at Thomas Auto Injection www.thomasautos.co.uk  
**To apply/more information:**  
 Thomas Auto Injection  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Email kathy@thomasautos.co.uk

## Not for profit, Charities

### Regional Co-ordinator

**Kent**  
**Salary:** £27403  
**To apply/more information:**  
 TBA  
 East Kent Mencap  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: TBA  
 Email Recruitment.Community Action@mencap.org.uk

### Regional Learning Disability Consultant

**Kent**  
**Salary:** £17,727 pro rata  
**Closing Date:** 29/01/10  
**To apply/more information:**  
 TBA  
 East Kent Mencap  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
 Tel: TBA  
 Email Recruitment.Community Action@mencap.org.uk

## Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

### SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

**Sittingbourne**  
**Salary:** £15,250  
 ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, highquality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff

## MOBILE CAFETERIA SERVICES IN PARKS



The Borough Council invites quotations for the PROVISION OF Mobile Cafeteria Services in Parks selling hot and cold beverages, ice-cream, snacks etc. at one or more separate established sites, with the estimated contract values per annum: HAYS DEN COUNTRY PARK (TONBRIDGE) £5k, TONBRIDGE CASTLE GROUNDS £10k, and LEYBOURNE LAKES COUNTRY PARK £5k for a three year period commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010.

Further details will be sent by contacting Leisure Services, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ, or by telephoning 01732 876166 or Emailing [leisure.services@tmbsc.gov.uk](mailto:leisure.services@tmbsc.gov.uk) quoting Reference Number LS/KM0110. All contractors must complete a questionnaire and provide supporting documentation.

All quotations and other information must be returned in the approved form by no later than 12 noon on Friday 5 February 2010.





to complement our team at our home in BOBBING  
www.achuk.com SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail louse.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.  
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 0208 5028871  
Email louse.burrows@achuk.com

**SUPPORT WORKERS**  
**Sittingbourne**  
Salary: £13,250 pa  
ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, highquality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our home in BOBBING  
www.achuk.com SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail louse.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.  
To apply/more information: ACH Care Homes Ltd  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 0208 5028871  
Email louse.burrows@achuk.com

**Night Carers**  
**Tonbridge**  
Salary :  
Are you an experienced, responsible and dedicated Carer? Yes, then you have an opportunity to join an exceptional small care home with an outstanding reputation. Don't put up with second best, move to the top level.  
To apply/more information: Kevin Hale Place  
Care Homes Ltd  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01622 871081  
Email kevin@haleplace.co.uk

**Care Staff**  
**Sevenoaks**  
Salary: TBA  
Due to expansion we require care staff for our busy residential home. competitive rates of pay. NVQ Training available Ring Debbie on 01732-822215  
To apply/more information: Holywell Park Ltd  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01732 822215  
Email debbieholywell@aol.com

**Carer - Nights**  
**Dover**  
Salary: TBA  
Carers Required at Riverlea House, Dover For Nights, NVQ preferably For more information Please call Mandie – tel: 01304 823935  
To apply/more information: Riverlea House  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01304 823935  
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

**Social Worker**  
**Thanet**  
Salary: TBA  
Closing Date: 31 January 2010  
To apply/more information: Ethelbert Children's Services  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01843 823762  
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
**Care Assistants**  
**Faversham**  
Salary: TBA  
Faversham Residential Home Requires Care Assistants to work on rota basis Also required Weekend Domestic 9am – 2pm For further details, please telephone 01795 532629 Between 10am – 4pm  
To apply/more information: Carnalea Residential Home  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01795 532629  
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

**Registered Nurse**  
**Dover**  
Salary: TBA  
KEARNSNEY MANOR NURSING HOME Registered Nurse This Dover nursing home requires a Flexi day RN. Please ring Tel: 01304 822135 For an Application Form. (This post will be subject to satisfactory references, CRB and POVA checks)  
To apply/more information: Kearnsney Manor Nursing Home  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01304 822135  
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

## Public Sector, Social Services

### Committee Services Manager

**Thanet**  
Salary: £29,895 to £35,007 per annum  
Closing Date: Friday 12 February 2010  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01843 577175  
Email jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk

**Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer**  
**Thanet**  
Salary: £26,940 to £30,738 per annum  
Closing Date: Friday 12 February 2010  
To apply/more information: Thanet District Council  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01843 577175  
Email jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk

## Retail, Wholesale, Sales

**Sales People**  
**Kent**  
Salary: TBA  
Black Tie Foods Ltd Sales People required No experience necessary. Full training and vehicle provided. Call 01732 760484  
To apply/more information: Black Tie Foods Ltd  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01732 760484  
Email blacktie@btconnect.com

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004**  
**APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Woodville Halls, Woodville Place, Gravesend**

Applicant: **Graham Long**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey  
Head of Registration  
1st Floor  
Invicta House,  
Maidstone, ME14 1XX



**TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995**  
**NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF A DIRECTION UNDER ARTICLE 4(1) TO WHICH ARTICLE 5(4) APPLIES**

NOTICE is hereby given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ("the Authority") has made a Direction under Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to which Article 5(4) applies ("the Direction").

The Direction applies to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

The effect of the Direction is that permission granted by article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 shall not apply to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice and that such development shall not be carried out within the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice unless planning permission is granted by the Authority on an application made to the Authority under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.


A copy of the Direction and of the map defining the area of land covered by it may be seen at the Council's Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 10am and 4pm on Saturday.

The Direction made by the Authority on 29th October 2009 and coming into force 6th November 2009 was approved by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 17th December 2009 and therefore remains in force in relation to the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**  
**The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995**  
**SCHEDULE 2 PART 2 - MINOR OPERATIONS**  
Class A  
The erection, construction, maintenance, improvement or alteration of a gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure.  
**SCHEDULE 2 PART 4 - TEMPORARY BUILDINGS AND USES**  
Class B  
The use of the land for any purpose for not more than 28 days in total in any calendar year, of which not more than 14 days in total may be for the purposes referred to in paragraph B.2, and the provision on the land of any movable structure for the purpose of the permitted use.

**SECOND SCHEDULE**  
Two parcels of land having an area of some 3.755 and 2.19 hectares respectively with a frontage of 270 metres to Bidborough Ridge

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,  
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS  
Dated : 23rd January 2010



**TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995**  
**NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF A DIRECTION UNDER ARTICLE 4(1)**

NOTICE is hereby given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ("the Authority") has made a Direction under Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 ("the Direction").

The Direction applies to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

The effect of the Direction is that permission granted by article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 shall not apply to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice and that such development shall not be carried out within the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice unless planning permission is granted by the Authority on an application made to the Authority under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

A copy of the Direction and of the map defining the area of land covered by it may be seen at the Council's Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 10am and 4pm on Saturday.


The Direction was made by the Authority on 29th October 2009 and approved by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 17th December 2009. The Direction comes into force in relation to the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice on the date on which this Notice is first published.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**  
**The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995**  
**SCHEDULE 2 PART 5 – CARAVAN SITES**  
Class A  
The use of the land, other than a building, as a caravan site in the circumstances referred to in paragraph A.2.  
**SCHEDULE 2 PART 6 – AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS AND OPERATIONS**  
Class A – Development on units of 5 hectares or more  
(a) Works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building; or  
(b) any excavation or engineering operations  
which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within that unit.  
Class B – Development on units of less than 5 hectares  
(a) the extension or alteration of an agricultural building;  
(b) the installation of additional or replacement plant or machinery;  
(c) the provision, rearrangement or replacement of a sewer, main, pipe, cable or other apparatus;  
(d) the provision, rearrangement or replacement of a private way;  
(e) the provision of a hard surface;  
(f) the deposit of waste; or  
(g) the carrying out of any of the following operations in connection with fish farming, namely, repairing ponds and raceways; the installation of grading machinery, seration equipment or flow meters and any associated channel; the dredging of ponds; and the replacement of tanks and nets, where the development is reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within the unit.

**SCHEDULE 2 PART 7 – FORESTRY BUILDINGS AND OPERATIONS**  
Class A  
The carrying out on land used for the purposes of forestry, including afforestation, of development reasonably necessary for those purposes consisting of :-  
(a) works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building;  
(b) the formation, alteration or maintenance of private ways;  
(c) operations on that land, or on land held or occupied with that land, to obtain the materials required for the formation, alteration or maintenance of such ways;  
(d) other operations (not including engineering or mining operations).

**SECOND SCHEDULE**  
Two parcels of land having an area of some 3.755 and 2.19 hectares respectively with a frontage of 270 metres to Bidborough Ridge

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,  
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,  
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS.  
Dated : 23rd January 2010




**Town and Country Planning Acts**  
The Council is required to give notice of the following applications  
**09/04072/FUL** **Bransby Cottage 1 Langton Road, Broadwater**  
- New drive spurred from existing road, part removal of dwarf wall to front of property. New surfacing to part front garden to include single graveled parking space with turning under grassed cellular reinforcement (LB) (CA)  
**09/03645/FULMJ** **Turnden Hartley Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**  
- Change of use from agriculture to use for equestrian activities and the provision of a staff office, toilet and kitchen block, quadrangle stable block, American barn, hay barn, sand school, associated parking and landscaping (MAJOR) (LB)  
**09/04027/HOUSE** **Pricklegate Swattenden Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**  
- Alternative works to existing planning permission TW/07/00071 - Relocation of proposed soil pipe to discharge on north west of house to new sewage treatment plant (LB)  
**09/04035/LBC** **Pricklegate Swattenden Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**  
- Listed Building Consent - Alternative works to existing Listed Building Consent TW/07/00076 - Structural repairs; Damp proof membrane to floor of new W.C. and lobby; Relocation of proposed soil pipe to discharge on north west of house to new sewage treatment plant (LB)  
**10/00018/LBC** **C R Burgess Commissioning Ltd 19 Mount Ephraim, Culverden**  
- Listed Building Consent - Replacement of 3 projecting bay windows, 1 basement window and repairs/refurbishment of 2 casement windows and pavement metal grating (LB)  
**10/00066/FUL** **Telecommunication Mast (Vodafone) Jarvis Lane, Goudhurst**  
- Installation of a 22.5m high lattice mast accommodating 3 No. antennas and 1 No. 0.3m transmission dish, radio equipment housing and ancillary development within a compound surrounded by a 1 metre high stockproof fence (MAST)  
**09/03334/LBC** **Park Farm Smallbridge Road, Horsmonden**  
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of the curtilage listed ancillary outbuilding adjacent to Park Farm and extension of the domestic curtilage (LB)  
**09/04043/FUL** **Lamberhurst Vineyard Furnace Lane, Lamberhurst**  
- Extension to form terrace cafe (LB) (CA)  
**10/00076/FUL** **Land Adjacent The Meeting House Little Mount Sion, Pantiles & St Marks**  
- Car park (CA)  
**10/00034/HOUSE** **42 Prospect Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**  
- Creation of parking area in front garden (CA)  
**10/00040/FUL** **Q 8 Petroleum (GB) Ltd London Road, Southborough North**  
- Demolition of existing disused filling station; Construction of 5 No. dwellings and basement parking, formation of new access to Doric Avenue and closure of access to London Road (LB) (DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROV) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe  
Head of Planning Services  
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS  
**Dated: 23 January 2010**



**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS**

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.


TM/09/02991/FL – **36 High Street Snodland Kent ME6 5DA** – Mr Z Tekingunduz is applying for change of use from retail (use Class A1) to cafe/restaurant (use Class A3) and erection of extract duct to rear elevation. Reason: CA  
TM/09/03178/FL & TM/09/03179/LB – **The Garden Cottage Yotes Court Mereworth Road Mereworth Maidstone Kent ME18 5JQ** – Mr And Mrs Ricci are applying to create a traditional small green oak framed porch at the south east elevation of the existing garden cottage. Reason: LB CA HH  
TM/09/03252/FL – **The Beeches Hatham Green Lane Stansted Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7PL** – Mr John Marchant is applying for extension to existing dwelling, incorporation and conversion of garage to living space. Reason: CA HH  
TM/09/03150/FL – **Mayfield Vigo Road Fairseat Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7LT** – Mr Nicholas Dartnell is applying for construction of new oak framed garage with home office accommodation over associated extension of hardstanding, extension of existing close boarded fencing and dismantling and removal of existing pre cast concrete garage. Reason: CA HH

**Reasons for the case being publicised:**  
LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting  
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area  
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button “Online Planning” (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 14 February 2010.

David Hughes  
Chief Executive  
24 January 2010



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### HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

**HAWKS LANE, CANTERBURY**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED  
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)  
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of new water and electricity supplies, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hawks Lane, Canterbury, outside number 18, on or after 25 January 2010 for an estimated period of 5 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Hawks Lane, Stour Street, Beer Cart Lane and St Margaret's Street

There will be a suspension of the one-way Traffic Orders in respect of Hawks Lane and St Margaret's Street.

### HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

**DENE ROAD, DARTFORD**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic and a temporary parking restriction on Dene Road, Dartford for the full length.

The Order will become effective on 25th January 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 7 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Darenth Road, Brent Lane and Cumberland Drive.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate works for Southern Gas Networks.

### HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

**SOUTHWALL ROAD, DEAL**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED  
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)  
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of drainage improvement works, the Kent County Council intends to make Order prohibiting traffic on Southwall Road, Deal, on or after 8 February 2010 for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Middle Deal Road and Church Lane.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Middle Deal Road, Orchard Avenue and Church Lane.

**VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED  
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)  
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Dover from as described in column 1 of the schedule to this order on or after 8 February 2010 for an estimated period of as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 2 of the schedule to this order.

**Road Name:** D1966 Kingsdown Road, St Margarets  
**Extent:** Whole length  
**Dates:** 11 – 12 February 2010 for two days  
**Diversions:** No alternative route

**Road Name:** Adisham Road, Aylesham  
**Extent:** Between Snowdown Road and Cooting Road  
**Dates:** 18, 19 & 21 February 2010 for three days  
**Diversions:** Cooting Road, Spinney Lane, Aylesham Road, Sandwich Road and Snowdown Road

**Road Name:** Adisham Road, Wingham  
**Extent:** Between Love Lane and Seaths Corner  
**Dates:** 17 – 18 February 2010 for two days  
**Diversions:** Staple Road, The Street, School Lane, Lower Road, Fleming Road, Drainless Road, Hammill Road, Sandwich Road, Easole Street, Holt Street, Aylesham Road, Spinney Lane and Cooting Road

This order will come into force on Monday 8 February 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months.

The order will allow for the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

### HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

**GATLAND LANE, FANT LANE, MAIDSTONE**  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED  
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)  
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the entire length of Gatland Lane and Fant Lane, Maidstone when required on or after Monday 8th February 2010 an estimated period of up to 14 Weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is via Farleigh Lane, and Tonbridge Road and vice versa.

KHS apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to carry out the construction of Fant Area Traffic Calming. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is David Ardley on 08458 247800.

**HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 – SECTION 116**  
**STOPPING UP OF LAND AT STACEYS STREET AND JAMES WHATMAN WAY, MAIDSTONE**

Notice is hereby given that the Kent County Council propose to make an application to the Magistrates sitting at Maidstone Magistrates Court on 25 February 2010 at 10:00 for an Order under Section 116 of the Highways Act 1980 to extinguish highways rights on the grounds that they are unnecessary on land at Staceys Street and James Whatman Way, Maidstone as shown in red on the plan on deposit.

A copy of this notice and the plan referred to are on deposit, and can be seen during normal office hours, at the main reception at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent. ME14 1XX.

If you require further information or would like to discuss this matter, please contact John Farmer at Kent Highway Services in writing at Kent Highways Services, Second Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Alternatively, call 08458 247800 (24 hour contact centre) or e-mail john.farmer@kent.gov.uk

### HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

**BASING LANE, COWDEN**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Basing Lane, Cowden at the entrance to Scarlett's and Basing and Smithers Farm.

The Order will become effective on 8th February 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 11th February 2010 and last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Smithers Lane Dormanland Surrey, Shepherds Grove Lane Forest Row East Sussex, Holtye Hill East Sussex, Furnace Lane East Sussex and Basing Lane Cowden.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate carriageway patching works

### HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

**ST LEONARD'S ROAD, HYTHE**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED  
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)  
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to upgrade the wastewater pipeline, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on St Leonard's Road, Hythe, on or after 8 February 2010 for an estimated period of 8 weeks or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed between the junction with New Road and the junction with Windmill Street. There is no access for through traffic between the junctions of Park Road and Windmill Street.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Park Road and Albert Road.

**QUEENS ROAD, LITTLESTONE**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED  
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)  
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to upgrade the wastewater pipeline, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Queens Road, Littlestone, on 8 February 2010 for an estimated period of 14 weeks or until the works are complete.

The closure will be in rolling sections from outside number 4 to outside number 96, as signposted on site.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Station Approach, Littlestone Road and Park Road.

### HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

**HIGH STREET, BROADSTAIRS**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Improvement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on High Street, Broadstairs from Queens Road and Prospect Place on or after 25 January 2010 for an estimated period of seven weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Carlton Avenue, Lindenthorpe Road, Crow Hill, Nelson Place and Albion Street, also Charlotte Street, York Street, York Avenue and Queens Road.

This order will come into force on Monday 25 January 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period for a maximum period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

**RUMFIELDS ROAD AND FAIRFIELD ROAD, BROADSTAIRS**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Rumfields Road and Fairfield Road, Broadstairs, on or after 28 January 2010 for an estimated period of 2 nights or until the works are complete. It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 pm and 3.00 am.

Rumfields Road will be closed between the junctions of Westwood Road and The Maples; Fairfield Road will be closed between the roundabout and the junction with Collingwood Close.

The suggested alternative route for through traffic will be via Westwood Road, Margate Road, Pysons Road, Bromstone Road, Ramsgate Road, Gladstone Road, Seafield Road, Osborne Road, The Broadway, St. Peters Road, Broadstairs Road.

### HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

**VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING**  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Tuesday 26th January 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

**Schedule**  
**Road Name:** Wrotham Hill Road, Wrotham  
**Extent:** Between Tumblefield Road and Fairseat Lane  
**Dates:** Start: 11th February 2010  
End: 13th February 2010  
**Diversions:** Tumblefield Road, Plaxdale Green Road, Stansted Hill, Vigo Hill, Platt House Lane, Fairseat Lane

**Road Name:** Pratling Street, Aylesford  
**Extent:** Between Old Mill Lane and Rochester Road  
**Dates:** Start: 8th February 2010  
End: 10th February 2010  
**Diversions:** Rochester Road and Pratling Street

**Road Name:** Lower Haysden Lane, Tonbridge  
**Extent:** Between Brook Street and Upper Haysden Lane  
**Dates:** Start: 4th February 2010  
End: 6th February 2010  
**Diversions:** Brook Street and Upper Haysden Lane

**Road Name:** Smithers Lane, East Peckham  
**Extent:** Whole length  
**Dates:** Start: 18th February 2010  
End: 20th February 2010  
**Diversions:** N/A

**Road Name:** Blackman's Lane, Hadlow  
**Extent:** Whole length  
**Dates:** Start: 19th February 2010  
End: 25th February 2010  
**Diversions:** Three Elm Lane, A26 Hadlow Road and A26 Tonbridge Road

**Road Name:** A26 Woodgate Way, Tonbridge  
**Extent:** Between A2014 Pembury Road and B2017 Five Oak Green Road  
**Dates:** Start: 23rd February 2010  
End: 24th February 2010  
**Diversions:** A2014 Pembury Road, B2260 Quarry Hill Road/Railway Approach, Vale Road, Avenue Du Puy, Sovereign Way, Vale Road, A26 Vale Rise, A26 Woodgate Way

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works to be undertaken by Kent Highway Services.

Please Note: Access will be maintained for all residents, businesses and their visitors as much as possible during the works.

For further information or comment please call Robert Seggie of Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

**THE ROCKS ROAD, EAST MALLING**  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED  
BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS)  
ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on The Rocks Road from Chapel Street to Easterfields on or after Tuesday 9th February 2010 for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via Sweets Lane and Wateringbury Road.

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to renew an aerial cable to restore service. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Tracy Zeal on 08700 500792.

**VIGO HILL, TROTTSCLIFFE**  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Vigo Hill between A227 Gravesend Road and Taylor's Lane on or after Monday 25th January 2010 for a period of up to 3 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via A227 Gravesend Road, A20 London Road, Ford Lane, Taylor's Lane and vice versa.

South East Water Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to permanently reinstate the carriageway. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Nicola Stone of Clancy Docwra on 01634 873290.

**MATTHEWS LANE, HADLOW**  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Matthews Lane, Hadlow from the junction of Matthews Lane with Forge Lane to the bottom of the hill on or after Tuesday 26th January 2010 for up to 1 week or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is for northbound traffic via Common Road, A26 Maidstone Road, B2016 Seven Mile Lane, Mereworth Road, Stan Lane, Forge Lane and for southbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to carry out drainage works. Should you require any further information the contact is Jamie Finch on 07764 774891.

### HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

**MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD/GROSVENOR ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS**  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Mount Pleasant Road/Grosvenor Road between the junctions of Newton Road and Goods Station Road on or after Sunday 31st January and Sunday 7th February 2010 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via A264 Church Road, A26 London Road, A26 Mount Ephraim, Grosvenor Road, Upper Grosvenor Road, Meadow Road, Goods Station Road and vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for highway improvement works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Darren Hickman on 08458 247 800.

**QUAKER LANE, CRANBROOK**  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the entire length of Quaker Lane Cranbrook from Angley Road to Waterloo Road on or after Monday 25th January 2010 for an estimated period of up to 3 Weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is Waterloo Road, Angley Road woodlands, and Angley Road and vice versa.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary to install a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Mark Apps on 07920150842.

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By **STEVE LOADER**

PEUGEOT'S famous lion alter-ego had looked sleepy lately.

Maybe it was mesmerised by arch-rival Renault huffing and puffing about being the 'Createur d'Automobiles' and too relaxed about its own stablemate Citroën stealing an edge in key areas, notably the growing and profitable MPV sector.

But the French lion has entered its bicentenary of 2010, not with a yawn, but a roar, including a sharp new execution of the Peugeot lion badge itself and bold plans to move from 10th to seventh in the world car market by 2015.

It will also launch no less than 14 new models worldwide within the next two years and – thumbing its nose at Renault – become a benchmark for style under the banner 'Motion and Emotion'.

But if it sounds like the lion's roar might be worse than its bite, note how mainstream Peugeots have had a serious hike in cabin quality over the last couple of years and the marque has just launched the impressive 3008 crossover and slick 5008 MPV (see What Car? awards coverage later).

Furthermore, Peugeot plans to launch the stunning RCZ Coupé in April (main pic-

## Sleepy lion wakes up and roars

ture) billing it as the 'the affordable super-car'. It will be priced from a modest £22,000-plus and the first Peugeot to wear the new lion badge.

Available initially with a 200bhp turbocharged petrol engine delivering 0-62mph in 7.6 seconds, Peugeot is also talking about a diesel-electric hybrid 'eco-sportster' RCZ version for later on.

The latter also highlights a more eco-friendly route from the brand, with the new all-electric iOn city car (inset) – a derivative of the Mitsubishi Miev city car – and E-Vivacity scooter from 2010, e-HDi (Stop-Start) on all diesel models from 2011, and a plug-in diesel hybrid in 2012.

Peugeot has also confirmed a production version of its BB1 electric car concept –



just 2.5 metres-long yet able to seat four.

To advance the 'style' claim, it has also unveiled the SR1 hybrid sporting concept car – surely the most elegant Peugeot design ever from the brand?

Peugeot was founded in 1810, when Jean-Pierre and Jean-Frédéric Peugeot turned their father's cereal mill into a steel foundry and took the Peugeot family into the industrial era. It adopted the lion emblem for its products in 1858, applying it to cars from 1906.



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# FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



## A new city car option coming from Honda?

SUZUKI and Nissan already build baby cars for the UK market in a low-cost Indian plant and maybe Honda will follow suit with this sharp-looking compact city car.

No announcements have been made on likely markets for the 'New Small Concept', apart from India itself and Thailand, but don't rule it out as more and more carmakers pick up on the economy/

downsizing trend here.

Meanwhile, Honda dealers have announced new year deals on sporty Civic family hatch models, notably a £931 saving on the sporty three-door Honda Civic 1.4 Type S Manual (£14,495) and more than £1,000 on the five-door Honda Civic 1.4 Si (£15,495) and 1.8 Si manual (£16,495), plus assistance from zero per cent finance in certain cases.

## Cut-price performers

RENAULT'S flagships Renaultsport performance models are a brand in themselves, but often financially beyond reach for younger would-be buyers, for insurance and list price reasons.

So the French marque now has a more affordable option, the resurrected Clio S formula from the early 90s, with the new three-door models using the same trademark white 16-inch 'Polar' alloys.

Other cosmetics include a white front bumper insert and white 'GT' rear spoiler plus

optional white racing stripes on the sides and roof, with an 'S' incorporated into each band.

The sporty theme continues inside with 'S' embossed upholstery, leather steering wheel and striking white centre console, dashboard inserts and instrument dials.

Clio S pricing starts at £11,209 with a choice of four colours: Glacier White, Pearl Black, Capsicum Red and Extreme Blue.



## Bye to Scrappage – hello Swappage



SCRAPPAGE – the £2,000-a-time part exchange grant on cars of 10 or more years of age – is due to end by March, but Toyota has an in-house replacement ready.

Known as 'Swappage', it gives buyers £2,000 off a new Yaris supermini, Auris family hatch or Avensis family car.

Unlike the Scrappage scheme, Swappage is also open to owners of vehicles between seven and 10 years

old – registered between March 1, 2000, (W-plate) and February 28, 2003, (52-plate) and their trusty old steed won't necessarily be consigned to the scrapper either.

There are even greater savings available for customers who choose the British-built Toyota Avensis, with a further discount of £500 available on T2 models and £750 on the TR and T4 versions.

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Lowest GEN-2 1.6 Persona MT (petrol): urban 28.5 (9.9), extra urban 60.1 (4.7), combined 42.8 (8.6); CO2 157; Highest GEN-2 1.6 GSK AT (petrol):  
urban 28.8 (9.8), urban 46.3 (8.1), combined 38.2 (7.4); CO2 176

\*Price shown is for GEN-2 ecologic 1.6 GSK MT, manufacturer's list price £9,995 excluding mandatory plate which is an option at £200. Model shown is GEN-2 1.6 number plates, 12 months road fund licence and first registration fee. GEN-2 ecologic models with automatic transmission are registered by Philon prior to conversion. \*Free leather available on GSK model only, offer ends 31st of March 2010 and is subject to availability. Available at participating dealers only. \*Warranty is subject to maintenance in accordance with manufacturer's schedule. Terms and condition apply.



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**Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Vauxhall Range: urban 12.7 (22.3) - 51.4 (5.5), extra-urban 25.4 (11.1) - 74.3 (3.8), combined 18.6 (15.2) - 62.8 (4.5), CO2 Emissions 119 - 364 g/km.**

Models shown have optional metallic paint available at an additional cost of £395. Prices shown are available on selected Retailer stock only, whilst stocks last and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. \*£2000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.08.99 when traded in against a new car subject to conditions. All offers available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all Retailer stocks. Offers available at participating retailers only. UK supplied vehicles only. †Includes £2,000 scrappage allowance



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Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): The All New Astra Range: urban – from 28.8 (9.9) to 49.6 (5.7), Extra-urban – from 50.4 (5.6) to 68.9 (4.1), Combined – from 39.8 (7.1) to 60.1 (4.7). CO2 Emissions from 167 to 124g/km.

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\*Saving shown is against Vauxhall list price at time of publication. On the road prices include customer savings, number plates, delivery, Vehicle Excise Duty and a first registration fee. All prices exclude VAT. Models shown are for illustration purposes only. Offers are available on orders placed before 30th January 2010, subject to availability, and are available to small businesses 1-24 units only (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer and may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. A £59 inc. VAT admin fee will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. E&OE.



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(1) Typical finance example for 4 years 0% APR Typical.

CASH PRICE	DEPOSIT	AMOUNT FINANCED	FIRST PAYMENT	46 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	1 FINAL PAYMENT	INTEREST CHARGES	TOTAL CHARGE FOR CREDIT	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	0% TYPICAL APR <sup>†</sup>
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59 Reg Zafira Active 1.8i 16v 5dr

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• Air con • CD player • Electric windows

**All models include balance of manufacturers warranty, many with metallic paint!**

(2) Typical finance example for £1000 finance deposit allowance.

CASH PRICE	DEPOSIT (£1000 Paid by WJ King)	AMOUNT FINANCED	FIRST PAYMENT	58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	1 FINAL PAYMENT	INTEREST CHARGES	TOTAL CHARGE FOR CREDIT	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	13.1% TYPICAL APR <sup>†</sup>
£10995	£4000	£6995	£155.57	£155.57	£274.57	£2140.20	£2458.20	£13,453.20	

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**VAUXHALL**

(1) 4 years 0% APR is based on a minimum deposit of 40%, available on selected Agila and Corsa models as advertised. (2) Minimum finance amount £5000, minimum finance term 24 months. £1000 finance deposit allowance available on selected Insignia, Meriva and Zafira models as advertised. Finance supplied by Barclays Partner Finance, PO Box 3979, Glasgow G51 1YL, subject to status, over 18's only, a guarantee may be required, written quotations available on request. Savings shown are against MRRP at time of publication. Prices shown are available on selected WJ King stock vehicles only, whilst stocks last and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. All offers available to private individuals. Offers apply to selected pre-registered vehicles purchased before 30th January 2010. A £59 inc. VAT admin fee will be added to all vehicle purchases, this includes £20 worth of fuel. WJ King reserves the right to withdraw any offer at any time. Please note, models portrayed are for illustration purposes only and may not represent actual model. Telephone calls may be recorded for training purposes. E&OE.

# A lot fewer recruits to the 4x4 SWAT team sector now

HINDSIGHT'S a wonderful thing, so we all now agree that we saw the storm warnings of recession a long way off.

Yet we ignored them and carried on 'whacking the plastic', filling our homes with cheap Chinese imports – we call it 'oh, more landfill' in our house – and buying silly cars.

The silliest were 4x4s, a class of car that got out of hand.

Don't blame the carmakers; they simply gave the public what it wanted and was willing to pay handsomely for – often by adding tens of thousands to self-certified mortgages.

But it was bonkers to be buying such monsters to swank around in when rarely venturing into the rural wilds or onto building sites and, as I so often commented, the driving experience was poor – and that's not hindsight.

One mother proudly told me she bought her SWAT team lookalike to ensure her children would be safe, sniffing contemptuously at me when I hoped sincerely that she never had a head-on meeting with her counterpart in a 10-year-old Ford Fiesta.

So, where are we now? Well, our own Tunbridge Wells could still be England's 4x4 capital with more 'Chelsea Tractors' per head than that swanky London enclave itself, but sales of new 4x4s have nosedived, with SUV (sports utility vehicle) beauty pageant variants increasingly displaced by 'crossovers' like the excellent Nissan Qashqai – a car with the high

DrivingReview



by  
**STEVE LOADER**

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT  
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

**Mercedes ML350 CDI**

driving position of a 4x4-cum-MPV, but usually selling with economical front-wheel drive only.

This trend seems set to continue, leaving the once booming pre-recession 4x4 sector dominated by an elite top-end split between the seriously capable – such as the evergreen Land Rover Defender – and the capable yet luxurious, such as the Mercedes-Benz M-Class tested here.

In truth, many buyers will never take the big Merc off-road and nor did I, but there is now a



rugged reassurance about this car that is far from the flaky feel of the first generation model.

It's not the kind of car I can ever really rave about though, being too bulky and feeling top-heavy on the corners.

In the current economic and ecologic climates the big petrol and AMG versions are pretty crass too, insulting those Third World islanders now sloshing around in their homes as sea levels rise.

## Quality used cars

MODEL	ENGINE	REG	YEAR	MILES	COLOUR	PRICE
FABIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.2 6v 54 BHP (PETROL)	GF54YBR	OCTOBER '04	44520	SAHARA BEIGE	£4,490.00
FABIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	GN04YZA	JUNE '04	24342	GRAPHITE GREY	£4,990.00
FABIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	GF56U2S	DECEMBER '06	65042	DYNAMIC BLUE	£4,990.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	KX55GYG	SEPTEMBER '05	36164	SATIN GREY	£5,490.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	GL56KXB	JANUARY '07	14237	CORRIDA RED	£6,490.00
FABIA SPORT 5DR HATCH	1.4 16v 75 BHP (PETROL)	GF05PHX	MAY '05	20517	DYNAMIC BLUE	£5,990.00
FABIA 1 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	GD07CDV	JULY '07	17178	SATIN GREY	£7,290.00
FABIA 1 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ57WCG	OCTOBER '07	24954	SATIN GREY	£8,490.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	GN57VVL	SEPTEMBER '07	9339	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£7,990.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	GK09YFU	MARCH '09	TBA	STORM BLUE	£8,490.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	GK59ZKJ	SEPTEMBER '09	TBA	CORRIDA RED	£8,890.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.6 16v AUTO (PETROL)	GL09ARZ	JUNE '09	TBA	ARCTIC GREEN	£9,990.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GD07CDX	JULY '07	12469	FLAMENCO RED	£8,990.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GL57YKK	JANUARY '08	7045	SATIN GREY	£8,990.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ58SYG	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	TANGERINE ORANGE	£8,490.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ58SYE	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	BLACK MAGIC	£8,490.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ58SYS	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	SATIN GREY	£8,990.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ58SYR	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£8,990.00
FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GL09AP0	JULY '09	TBA	TANGERINE ORANGE	£9,990.00
FABIA 3 5DR HATCH	1.4 16v 85 BHP (PETROL)	GL57TMM	DECEMBER '07	10656	ANTHRACITE GREY	£9,290.00

MODEL	ENGINE	REG	YEAR	MILES	COLOUR	PRICE
FABIA 3 5DR HATCH	1.6 16v 105 BHP (PETROL)	GK57YRU	SEPTEMBER '07	6039	BLACK MAGIC	£9,790.00
FABIA vRS 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 130 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ05LOF	MARCH '05		BLACK MAGIC	£6,990.00
FABIA CLASSIC 5DR ESTATE	1.4 MPI 68 BHP (PETROL)	GK51FWH	NOVEMBER '01	73453	STONE GREY	£3,490.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16v 100 BHP (PETROL)	GK56VDG	SEPTEMBER '06	22096	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£6,990.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 TDi 75 BHP (DIESEL)	EJ05DGF	APRIL '05	44489	SAHARA BEIGE	£5,990.00
FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 TDi 75 BHP (DIESEL)	GK05OKG	MARCH '05	34327	STONE GREY	£6,290.00
FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16v 100BHP (PETROL)	GJ06CFN	MARCH '06	6345	SAHARA BEIGE	£7,290.00
FABIA BLUELINE 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	LY03VVG	AUGUST '03	88394	ADMIRAL BLUE	£3,290.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 5DR MPV	1.4 16v 85BHP (PETROL)	GL56HZR	DECEMBER '06	80713	OCEAN BLUE	£5,490.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 5DR MPV	1.6 16v AUTO (PETROL)	GJ09NLF	MARCH '09	TBA	POLAR BLUE	£9,490.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 5DR MPV	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GL56HZA	DECEMBER '06	15127	CORRIDA RED	£7,990.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 5DR MPV	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ09NLE	MARCH '09	TBA	BLACK MAGIC	£9,490.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 3 5DR MPV	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	GK58NNC	SEPTEMBER '08	TBA	ANTHRACITE GREY	£9,890.00
ROOMSTER LEVEL 3 5DR MPV	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GL56JXF	JANUARY '07	8353	STORM BLUE	£9,490.00
ROOMSTER SCOUT 5DR MPV	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GK59ZKS	SEPTEMBER '09	TBA	ROSSO BRUNELLO	£12,490.00
OCTAVIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSI 115 BHP (PETROL)	GJ56TVZ	SEPTEMBER '06	28487	DIAMOND SILVER	£7,290.00
OCTAVIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	RH58CAB	NOVEMBER '08	41551	CANDY WHITE	£9,490.00
OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSI 115 BHP (PETROL)	GJ56TWD	SEPTEMBER '06	40594	FLAMENCO RED	£7,490.00
OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDi 140 BHP (DIESEL)	GL07TUV	JUNE '07	20909	BLACK MAGIC	£10,490.00

EX-DEMONSTRATOR ●

## Octavia, L&K, vRS, Scout and 4x4 tax free and interest free \*



Until 31st January 2010 we've reduced the price on all Octavia models, so it'll be like not having to pay the VAT. And with 0% APR typical\* thrown in on Octavia, L&K, vRS, Scout and 4x4 there's no excuse for not popping in to see us.

For more information or to organise a test drive contact us

**Skoda. Manufacturer of happy drivers.**

## Fabia 3 and Scout now tax and interest free \*

Until 31st January 2010, we've reduced the price on all Fabia 3 and Scout models so it'll be like not having to pay the VAT.

This represents a potential customer saving of up to £1,808.48 on the RRP. Prices for Fabia 3 start from £10,813.70 RRP and Scout start from £11,518.04 RRP.

And with 0% APR typical\* thrown in there is no excuse for not popping in to see us.

For more information or to organise a test drive contact us

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Model shown is a Fabia 3 1.4 16v 85bhp at £12,730 including optional metallic paint at £400 RRP. Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Fabia Range: Urban 27.7 (10.2) – 53.3 (5.3), Extra-urban 47.1 (6.0) – 83.1 (3.4), Combined 37.7 (7.5) – 68.9 (4.1). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km) Skoda Range: 109 – 235

\*Offer is subject to a minimum 50% deposit and is over a two year period. Offer not available in conjunction with scrapage offers. Retail sales only. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18% for orders taken by 31st January 2010. Skoda Finance, Freeport Skoda Finance. Subject to vehicle availability. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Prices are accurate at time of print.

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website: [www.sherlodgearage.skoda.co.uk](http://www.sherlodgearage.skoda.co.uk)







But the diesels make more sense if you want a luxury holdall with go anywhere or top towing ability.

Despite its height, the Merc offers good ride quality, decent handling, excellent grip and excellent motorway manners and our ML280 CDI SE test car – now superseded by the £40,165 ML350 CDI BlueEfficiency entry model – was fitted with the 'Airmatic Package' (£1,300) allowing suspension and ride to adjust automatically to driving conditions according

to three settings: sport, normal and comfort.

'Sport' tightens everything up, but you would rarely use it instead of the 'normal' default, while 'comfort' reduces the burly M-Class to a quivering blancmange really only useful when straight line cruising with a load on.

The standard seven-speed auto transmission is impressive, changing gear seamlessly in 'Drive' though you can also pilot the car using the tidy manual selection.

As I said earlier, this M-Class has more of

the rock-solid build you would expect from the German marque and the cabin underlines the point; it is logical and well-made in current house style and the seating is excellent – the 'Artico' man-made leather being particularly convincing and more durable than the real thing.

Three can be properly seated across the back too, ahead of a huge boot which can be further extended by variously or completely folding the 60/40 split rear seats.

## DrivingPortfolio

**MERCEDES-BENZ ML350 CDI**  
**BLUEEFFICIENCY £40,165**

Driving appeal	★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★
Running costs	★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★
Road tax	£405/year
Best rival	BMW X5

## TheVerdict



### DON'T LIKE:

this type of car generally



### NOT SURE:

it will be bought as anything other than a status symbol



### REALLY LIKE:

the reassurance it would bring if you really had to 'rough it and tough it' out

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07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES.....	£5995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES.....	£5995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSI AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER GREEN 7000 MILES.....	£6995
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**2004** SAAB 9-3 1.9TD Linear, 4 Doors, Manual, Diesel, 50,000 miles, Metallic Steel Grey, ABS, Air conditioning, Alarm, Alloy wheels, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Full Service History, Park distance control, Traction control ..... **£7,495**

**2005 05** SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners, Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Multi function steering wheel, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Reverse parking aid, Part Service History, Air conditioning, Climate Control, Park distance control ..... **£7,295**

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- Electrically adjustable and heated door mirrors
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#### ALFA ROMEO

**147**, 1.6 TS LUSO, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloys cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint single cd player twin airbags remote central locking, beige metallic, 38061 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

#### AUDI

**A2**, 1.6 F1 Sport 5dr, remote alarm, remote central locking, heated seats, folding rear seats, rear headrests, power steering, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, parking sensor, electric seats, 17" alloys, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fa regulated, light blue metallic, 64000 miles, £5990, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

**A2**, 1.4, 2001, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking, black, 66439 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**A2**, 1.4, 2001, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking, black, 66439 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

#### BMW

**1 SERIES**, 120d ES, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, black, 38500 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, 330d SE Auto, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 19622 miles, £18900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, 2.0 320D M SPORT CONVERTIBLE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation trip computer xenon headlamps remote central locking remote audio controls, blue/black, 18000 miles, £28000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, 320i SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering reverse parking aid, blue, 26014 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, 318i SE, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points roof bars remote audio controls, grey, 59350 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, 323i SE, 2000, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags remote central locking, blue, 95120 miles, £3500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

#### CHEVROLET

**KALOS**, SX 5dr, sm08kxt, central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, aluminium silver, 6000 miles, £6495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

**KALOS**, 1.4, 2008, orange, 55 miles, £9985, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**LACETTI**, CDX, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, poly silver, 23500 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**LACETTI**, SX, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player twin airbags remote central locking, metallic black, 37700 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**LACETTI**, CDX, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, poly silver, 23500 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**LACETTI**, SX, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player twin airbags remote central locking, metallic black, 37700 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

#### CITROEN

**C1**, 1.4, 2008, silver, 50 miles, £10990, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**C1**, Rythm, 2008, abs brakes cd player drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, beige, 27461 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**C4 PICASSO**, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloys automatic cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, beige, 27461 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**C4 PICASSO**, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking, gold, 34800 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

#### FIAT

**500**, 1.4 Sport 3dr Hatch, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, isofix child seat anchor points, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, sports seats, traction control, tropical yellow, 15 miles, £10995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

**500**, 1.2 Lounge 3dr Hatch, gk59vjg, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, isofix child seat anchor points, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, sports seats, traction control, tropical yellow, 15 miles, £10995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

**500**, 1.4 Sport 3dr Hatch, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, space saver spare wheel, isofix child seat anchor points, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, sports seats, traction control, crossover black metallic, 9000 miles, £9995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

#### FORD

**ESCORT**, lx, 1998, met green, 61000 miles, £800, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

**ESCORT**, 1998, green, 86786 miles, £850, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 5, ma56unb, insurance group 4 abs air co alloys body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking panther black, 27000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 3, lx02sxb, insurance group 6 alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cd trip computer 2 owners service history, steel blue, 44000 miles, £3000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

**FOCUS**, ZETEC, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, tonic blue, 23931 miles, £7880, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**FOCUS**, ZETEC, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tinted glass trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen, panther black, 14737 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**FOCUS**, 2.0 CC-2 TDCi, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer canopy roof remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, blue, 13260 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

#### HONDA

**ACCORD**, i-CTDi EX, 2007, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking climate control cruise control electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior left hand drive multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation sunroof, silver, 79797 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**ACCORD**, i-CTDi EX, 2007, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking climate control cruise control electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior left hand drive multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation sunroof, silver, 79797 miles, £9500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**ACCORD**, i-CTDi EX, 2007, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking climate control cruise control electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior left hand drive multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation sunroof, silver, 79797 miles, £9500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**CIVIC**, 1.6i SE EXECUTIVE, 2003, abs brakes air con cd player electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, blue, 79363 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**CIVIC**, 1.8 i-VTEC SE, 2007, abs brakes air con cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats remote central locking, grey, 46642 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**CIVIC**, Type R, 2005, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats remote central locking, grey, 46642 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

#### KIA

**CARENS**, GS (7 seat), 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, silver, 30000 miles, £8800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**CARENS**, 2.0 TD SR, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**CARENS**, 2.0, 2008, black, 56 miles, £16100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**CARENS**, 2.0, 2008, black, 39 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**CARENS**, 2.0 TD SR, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows immobiliser satellite navigation, red, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**CARENS**, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**CARENS**, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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<b>£18995</b>	<b>£5071</b>	<b>£1000</b>	<b>£6071</b>	<b>£249.01</b>
Total Amount Payable	Total Charge for Credit inc Purchase fee	Optional Final Payment	4.9% APR	
<b>£20030.24</b>	<b>£1035.24</b>	<b>£7973</b>		

Mileage based on 12,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 0.08p+VAT per mile



Cash Price	Customer Deposit	Deposit Contribution from Ford	Total Deposit	24 Monthly Payments
<b>£8845</b>	<b>£2636</b>	<b>£450</b>	<b>£3086</b>	<b>£99.02</b>
Total Amount Payable	Total Charge for Credit inc Purchase fee	Optional Final Payment	4.9% APR	
<b>£9326.48</b>	<b>£481.48</b>	<b>£3854</b>		

Mileage based on 12,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 0.06p+VAT per mile



Cash Price	Customer Deposit	Deposit Contribution from Ford	Total Deposit	24 Monthly Payments
<b>£11995</b>	<b>£3167</b>	<b>£450</b>	<b>£3617</b>	<b>£149.03</b>
Total Amount Payable	Total Charge for Credit inc Purchase fee	Optional Final Payment	4.9% APR	
<b>£12684.72</b>	<b>£689.72</b>	<b>£5481</b>		

Mileage based on 12,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 0.06p+VAT per mile



Cash Price	Customer Deposit	Deposit Contribution from Ford	Total Deposit	24 Monthly Payments
<b>£15395</b>	<b>£3713</b>	<b>£1500</b>	<b>£5213</b>	<b>£219.04</b>
Total Amount Payable	Total Charge for Credit inc Purchase fee	Optional Final Payment	4.9% APR	
<b>£16184.96</b>	<b>£789.96</b>	<b>£5705</b>		

Mileage based on 12,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 0.06p+VAT per mile

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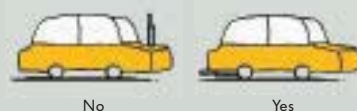
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# 'Get to grips with snow'

By **STEVE LOADER**

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**BUSINESSES** across Kent have emerged from the most severe winter weather experienced for years.

And though the county's share of the cost will take time to assess, it is already estimated the snow lost the UK's beleaguered economy at least £1.2 billion in wages and sales.

Many smaller firms simply could not cope due to stranded staff and lost deliveries and custom, according to the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT), though spokesman Tom Kelman said they simply failed to plan for the conditions and had to shape up fast – more bad weather is expected.

Loss or absence of staff is a major threat to smaller concerns because they rely on a few workers. Research shows 80 per cent of small firms facing prolonged disruption either never reopen or go out of business within 18 months.

AAT suggests considering 'key person insurance' to cover the absence of essential staff, but also checking that key workers can access each other's files, so colleagues can deal with the work in their absence. Computers should be networked for easy sharing of data and diaries.

If working from home is an option, put systems in place to allow staff to access email and voicemail and consider a system allowing short-term help via recruitment agencies. All of these should be backed by a continuity plan to map out recovery after disruption.

Effective working from home using new technology may have been one of the few positives from the big freeze though, says IT company Outsourcery, which claimed a 20 per cent rise in inquiries over the snowy period and



**GAINING TRACTION:** Salt used in the processing of Bramley apples and other fruit at Fourayes Farm, Bicknor, was turned to other uses to combat snow and ice threatening to block the surrounding roads and lanes. It was loaded into a fertiliser spreader hitched to the farm's trusty tractor during the big freeze. Farm manager Ian Witherden is seen here on snowploughing and salting duty

particularly from smaller companies looking for services such as instant messaging, voice and video conferencing and document sharing to network staff even when stranded in the wrong place or at home.



**RESPONSIBILITY:**  
Robert Kingdom

Outsourcery had to shut its own offices in London and elsewhere, but claims to have been

unaffected operationally by the weather.

Joint chief executive Piers Linney said: "The cold snap will only further underline how being able to connect with colleagues whenever and wherever they are means an increase in productivity company-wide."

Meanwhile, after Kent Police warnings not to travel unless absolutely necessary came business advice along the same lines from fleet management company Masterlease.

Recognising that people will chance driving to work because they fear for their jobs, Masterlease spokesman Robert Kingdom said it is then up bosses to say 'no' to driving in con-

ditions when stopping distances may be 10 times longer.

"It is the responsibility of the employer and HR department to ensure workers are not taking unnecessary risks," he said. "More than ever, with the introduction and enforcement of the Corporate Manslaughter Act, businesses have to take a front seat when it comes to ensuring the safety of their drivers."

If driving is possible and necessary, businesses must ensure drivers use all accepted advice on driving in slippery conditions, but also de-ice vehicles properly before setting out, allow more breaks and time between appointments or deliveries, and carry food supplies, clothing and blankets in case they are stranded.

Once the bad weather is over, there is still work to be done according to Richard Metcalfe of Hadlow-based surveyors Metcalfe Stanley Hicks. Apart from burst pipes and broken gut-



**MAINTENANCE:**  
Richard Metcalfe

tering, businesses may find pre-existing cracks in brickwork and glass made worse or shattered by fluctuating temperatures.

The latter problems highlight the wisdom of a Planned Maintenance Programme (PMP) to schedule and budget for essential upkeep over a fixed period, he said, adding: "Although severe weather can always cause unexpected problems, those who have followed a PMP are more likely to find their buildings emerge relatively unscathed as faults will have been repaired before ice and snow have a chance to exacerbate them."

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By **LIZ RULE**  
Pharon Independent  
Financial Advisers Ltd

THIS week I would like to highlight some interesting issues with respect to critical illness cover.

You may or may not know that it is possible to pay for insurance that will pay out a lump sum if you are diagnosed as having a critical illness.

There are various illnesses that qualify for a pay-out and some that don't and the Association of British Insurers has been lobbying hard to make sure all insurers use standard definitions.

Without standard definitions and accepted practice these types of policies can be hugely confusing for the policyholder.

For instance, some companies will pay out on diagnosis of cancer. The policy provisions may stipulate that this means on "diagnosis of a malignant tumour characterised by uncontrolled growth of malignant cells and invasion of tissue".

Most critical illness policies nowadays are designed to cover only the more severe forms of cancer, so some non-invasive cancers, or those diagnosed early that have not spread, may not be covered.

As with any insurance policy, you must look at the fine print and understand what you are – and are not – covered for.

Having said 'buyer beware', I must acknowledge the huge benefit these policies bring to those who have an acceptable claim.

When shocked by a health diagnosis and possibly unable to work due to treatment, to not have to worry about finance is a huge relief.

In 2008 the insurer in question paid out on 92.8 per cent of the critical illness claims they received, and almost 50 per cent of these were for a cancer claim, with 56 per cent women and 44 per cent men. The average age was 46.

Some of these policies can be expensive and if you have existing health concerns may not be easy to put in place, but anyone with commitments who is not sure they have enough cover and protection in place for their family should at least be aware these policies exist.

Most financial advisers should be able to guide you through the maze of options if it is something you feel you should consider.

# Soaring farmland values only outstripped by gold

By **STEVE LOADER**

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**FARMLAND** prices ended the decade on a record high, appearing to bear out predictions of a new agricultural boom.

Values far exceeded growth of those for prime housing, rising nearly 6.8 per cent in 2009 across the country, with a three per cent hike in the last three months.

The average price of farmland – defined as bare agricultural land without homes or buildings – is now £5,123/acre, exceeding the previous peak of £5,100/acre in the second quarter of 2008.

More significantly, according to the Knight Frank Farmland Market Index, farmland prices soared by 164 per cent during the Noughties against 37 per cent for prime country houses and 113 per cent for their equivalent in central London.

## Investing

The wisdom of investing in this sector was further underlined by the 22 per cent drop in the value of the FTSE 100 share index over the same period.

However, Knight Frank admits that shortage of supply is helping to fuel the dramatic boom, which is not only expected to continue over the next decade but may see values double again.

Reviewing the past 10 years, Knight Frank's head of rural land research, Andrew Shirley, said: "Of the major asset classes, only gold – the ultimate safe haven for investors in difficult times – has managed a stronger performance, with a 300 per cent hike in its value over the decade."

He confirmed that supply was fuelling the trend: "Ten years ago 226,000 acres of farmland were sold in England alone.

"Last year, under 150,000 acres were advertised publicly across Britain, about 30 per cent fewer than in 2008.

"A significant increase in sales during 2010 is not expected as the majority of owners hold land as a long-term investment and currently have little incentive to sell.

"This dwindling supply of land is being



**GROWTH INDUSTRY:** Farmland prices rose by more than 160 per cent in the last decade

fought over by a large number of potential buyers that shows no sign of abating.

"Commercial UK farmers remain the largest source of buyers, although their 47 per cent share of the market was down about eight per cent on the previous quarter, possibly because of lower commodity prices.

"Lifestyle purchasers looking for attractive residential farms were involved in a quarter of sales.

"As the world population grows, eating habits change and more and more farmland is lost to development and degradation, the investment rationale behind farmland will remain strong.

"Even the Labour Government, not tradi-

tionally perceived as having close links with agriculture, has now recognised that food security is an issue the UK has to face."

However, he warned that there might be inconsistencies within the seemingly relentless price rises.

"Large blocks of productive land, which can already fetch well over £6,000/acre, will lead the way, but as credit conditions begin to ease, smaller blocks of amenity land will prove increasingly popular once more with lifestyle buyers," he said.

"Less productive parcels of land with limited amenity value will not achieve such good prices unless there is interest from neighbouring farmers."

## Science's key role in farming

SCIENTISTS and researchers have had the creation of food security at the top of the agenda for some time, writes Hadlow College's Pat Crawford.

And the key statement of the influential Oxford Farming Conference was "only greater agricultural science co-operation will deliver production and sustainability gains".

Whereas research into boosting crop production was once science's most important contribution to agriculture, plant breeding is seen as the most vital in the future, with GM production having a significant role.

Soil and water management techniques and prevention and control of animal diseases are now important too, with animal genetics, welfare and nutrition also seen as key areas for new research.

An estimated £350 million is spent on research annually, mainly by the Government, with the agricultural supply industry the next big spender and farmers themselves also contributing.

The conference also showed farmers want science to be applied more and made simpler to understand, so they can learn how to

achieve optimum value. At present, many glean knowledge from the press, possibly because updates are presented so they can be easily understood by non-scientists.


Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Hilary Benn, told conference delegates: "It's only in the last few decades that we have felt able to take the supply of food for granted – but the truth is now apparent – we cannot take it for granted any more."

Most scientists agree that shortages will be universal and famine will increase around the globe, but farmers and growers in Kent are able to build production, providing we support them.

Hadlow's finance director Mark Lumsdon-Taylor said after the conference: "It is increasingly important to support the rural sector with sustained investment that takes account of organisations that can make a fundamental change, and to invest in the right technologies to help and support rural industries.

"Research in the right areas is a crucial factor and it is impossible to overstate the importance of awakening and developing young people's interest in careers in the sector."

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## Auction website opens up used car sales world

MOTOR dealers have increasingly found themselves rubbing shoulders with 'ordinary punters' at car auctions.

They may also have grown more exasperated when these confident private buyers outbid them, especially with used car values firming up over the past year.

But the trade might now feel its once-profitable position as middleman between auction and retail forecourt is under even greater threat now that private buyers can research buying a car via their laptop.

It has been made possible by the biggest player in the motor auction market, British Car Auctions (BCA), which has 21 sites across the UK, including at Paddock Wood.

With about 13,000 vehicles for sale at any one time, the new BCA website helps used-car buyers find the exact car they want to buy via a free-to-use online stock locator called Auction View.

"Our website takes all the legwork out of finding a used car," said BCA's Tim Naylor.

"Just enter the type of vehicle you're looking for – from make, model and body type, through to fuel, transmission, age and mileage.

"Auction View can search by location or nationwide to find out when and where the car you want is being offered for sale. It makes planning a day at the auctions much simpler."

A list of vehicles meeting the search criteria is automatically provided. The searcher can then check each vehicle in more detail, including colour, service history and accessories, age and mileage and digital images.

"And there's even a jargon-buster to help people understand trade terminology as well as to know what to look for when they come to a sale," added Mr Naylor.

## Foreign affairs

NEW Year changes back to the old 17.5 per cent VAT rate have preoccupied businesses so much that they may be unaware of how their foreign trading may be affected by other new VAT practices.

That is the warning from Reeves and Neylan VAT specialist Tracy Booth, who says HM Revenue and Customs made efforts to simplify international VAT arrangements from January 1, which included extending the number of business to business (B2B) services where responsibility for accounting for VAT shifts to the customer.

"If you supply your services to businesses abroad and normally charge UK VAT, you should check whether your services are now treated differently," she said.



**WARNING:**  
Tracy Booth

# 'Regional airports provide uplift for local economies'



**HIGH AND MIGHTY:** Bosses at Lydd Airport have flagged up a new report which highlights the role of regional runways in attracting local investment and development

MANAGERS at Lydd Airport say a new report supports their case that a multi-million-pound investment will help generate substantial and long-lasting benefits for the Romney Marsh area, *writes business editor Steve Loader.*

Lydd has applied for permission to build a 294-metre runway extension, plus a 150-metre starter apron and a terminal capable of handling up to 500,000 passengers a year.

Shepway District Council will vote on the controversial plans on March 3, but airport chiefs are clearly heartened by a report commissioned by the Airport Operators' Association, on the eve of a general election when the aviation debate is expected to intensify. The report shows Britain's aviation sector generated £8.8 billion of economic output in 2007-08, contributed £4.8bn in taxes and employed 141,000 people directly, with a further 93,000 in the supply chain.

The report maintains that a busy regional airport has positive impact on the surrounding area through trade, investment and 'connectivity' – reduced travel times and greater choice of destinations and markets.

Lydd Airport managing director Jonathan Gordon said: "A thriving airport acts as a real driver for development and economic prosperity, as it draws in a range of businesses keen to locate to a regional aviation hub.

"In recent years we have seen numerous examples where investment in developing regional airports has had a hugely positive impact on the local economy and that is our vision for Lydd."

Michael Dowds, a former senior airport manager with the British Airports Authority (BAA) and now with the Drivers Jonas LLP consultancy advising Lydd Airport, said: "I have first-hand experience of how regional airports attract well-paid, long-term jobs to an area with massive spin-off benefits for the local supply chain.

"Lydd has the potential to do the same for this corner of Kent and East Sussex. We hope Shepway District Council will recognise this and follow the lead of other local authorities in the UK regions by supporting Lydd's proposals."

## MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type R%: Rate percentage L: Loan U: Until  
OD: Other details

### FIXED

#### WOOLWICH

RT: FIXED R%: 3.79% L: 70% U: 30/04/2012  
OD: £1,304

### PRINCIPALITY

RT: FIXED R%: 4.59% L: 75% U: 31/12/2012  
OD: £1,039

### MORTGAGE BOX

RT: FIXED R%: 4.19% L: 70% U: 31/12/2011  
OD: £1,529

### FIRST ACTIVE – RBS

RT: FIXED R%: 4.89% L: 75% U: 31/03/2013  
OD: £829

### OTHER

#### NORTHERN ROCK

RT: TRACKER R%: 2.79% L: 70% U: 01/03/2012  
OD: £1,030

#### ABBEEY

RT: TRACKER R%: 2.69% L: 70% U: 2 YEARS  
OD: £1,030

### MORTGAGE BOX

RT: TRACKER R%: 2.879% L: 70% U: 2 YEARS  
OD: £1,010

### ALLIANCE & LEICESTER

RT: TRACKER R%: 1.99% L: 70% U: 2 YEARS  
OD: £2,030

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

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### MALE AGED 25

LEGAL & GENERAL	£7.25
AVIVA	£7.25
AXA	£7.39
AEGON SCOT EQ	£8.20
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£8.49
LV=	£8.55
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£8.68

### FEMALE AGED 25

LEGAL & GENERAL	£6.05
AVIVA	£6.05
LV=	£6.38
AEGON SCOT EQ	£6.70
ZURICH	£6.85
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£7.01
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£7.25

### MALE AGED 40

AVIVA	£17.68
AEGON SCOT EQ	£17.84
LEGAL & GENERAL	£18.05
BRIGHT GREY	£18.11
ZURICH	£18.55
PRU PROTECT	£18.89
LV=	£19.01

### FEMALE AGED 40

AVIVA	£14.21
LEGAL & GENERAL	£14.30
AEGON SCOT EQ	£14.30
BRIGHT GREY	£14.75
ZURICH	£14.80
LV=	£14.80
PRU PROTECT	£15.22

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

## Leisure site scores with new loan

PLANS to develop a Gravesend community leisure site have been boosted by a £190,000 business loan.

Fleet Leisure and Sports Club needs the money for expansion with four new five-a-side football pitches and a seven-a-side pitch, with floodlights and the latest generation artificial turf, due for completion in March.

The 11-acre site in Nelson Road already includes a members' bar and function hall, a bowling green, five football pitches, changing rooms and a multi-purpose hall.

The club was set up to provide high quality sports, leisure and entertainment facilities for the local community and secured the loan from long-term banking partner, Lloyds TSB Commercial.

The bank also arranged a £275,000 loan to the buy the club site from Kimberley Clark in 2005, supplementing a



**SPORTING CHANCE:** Work in progress at the club

Government grant and council funding.

The business has an annual turnover of £500,000 and employs 20 people – with three more jobs being created by the latest works.

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## Expertise adds sparkle to couple's gem of a deal

HUSBAND and wife team Mark and Elizabeth Sandum have fulfilled a dream by staging the successful management buyout of a Bexleyheath jewellers.

Mark had been manager at Broadway Jewellers when the opportunity arose to buy the business from the owner, who planned to retire. The couple managed the buyout using a £153,000 Government-backed Enterprise Finance Guarantee (EFG) scheme, organised through NatWest Bank.

Mark said: "Having worked in the jewellery business for 20 years I always dreamed of owning my own shop.

"When the owner indicated he would be willing to sell the business, my wife and I took the proposition to our relationship manager at NatWest, Samantha Gleadall, who responded

extremely positively. The arranging of the funding went very smoothly and everything was in place in time for our first deal deadline.

"The shop has an excellent location and we are confident that as the economic environment improves, the business will go from strength to strength."

The EFG scheme was set up to provide working capital to turn sound business propositions into realities despite the current economic climate. NatWest and parent RBS are now recognised specialists, having provided nearly half of all loans provided.

Samantha Gleadall (pictured right with Mark Sandum) said: "The deal demonstrates that the bank has a real appetite for helping local businesses and is an excellent use of the Government's EFG loan scheme."



ON THE UP: The apprentice grant scheme has been widened by ConstructionSkills

# Offering a fresh start for stalled apprenticeships

CONSTRUCTION apprentices across Kent who lost their positions through employers cutting back in the recession have been thrown a lifeline, **writes business editor Steve Loader.**

ConstructionSkills, the Government-sponsored Sector Skills Council, has extended a scheme so more employers across Kent can now receive a £1,000 grant to take on apprentices hit by the chronic downturn in a key sector of the economy.

Scheme organisers say they now need employers to come forward urgently to claim the cash and help youngsters re-start stalled careers.

ConstructionSkills South East apprenticeship manager Robbie Beecher said:

"We're thrilled to be able to open up this offer to a far wider audience.

"The Apprenticeship Matching Service team has already found new placements for over a third of apprentices that have been laid off and there are more we can help, but we really do need the support of employers.

"We understand employers are having a tough time at the moment and that taking on new staff might not be seen as a plausible option financially.

"However, I'd stress that apprentices add significant value to a business and its bottom line, through their determination, hard work, enthusiasm and loyalty.

"This is especially the case for displaced apprentices as they have received some learning and will possess a certain degree of on-site competency already.

"The money is there and we want employers to access it. Taking on an apprentice could be the best investment they make in 2010."

ConstructionSkills launched the matching service last year to help construction employers retain apprentices or match displaced apprentices with other employers in the area. The construction sector generates eight per cent of UK GDP, with a turnover of more than £210 billion a year.

Originally, only employers who had taken on an apprentice in the last 12 months of their training could receive the £1,000 grant, but funding has now been extended to include all apprentices who have:

- Completed college induction training;
- Registered for their framework with the Construction Awards Alliance or other approved body;
- Completed a period of site training to allow collection of work-based evidence.

Stephen Warman, of Chippie Contracts carpentry and joinery, Folkestone, reckons his firm has benefited from the scheme.

He said: "We recently took on carpentry apprentice Michael Jones, from Broadstairs. He only had a year of his studies to complete and I was really impressed with his feel for the industry and his trade, based on the training he'd already had.

"We have consistently taken on apprentices through ConstructionSkills over the past 10 years and we were able to help Michael in particular, as his

previous employer was actually working on the same building site we currently work on.

The funding is useful and Michael is proving an asset to the business."

The Apprenticeship Matching Service offers a broad range of support services to help businesses retain apprentices through the downturn, including mentoring for apprentices, advice for employers about available support, and help with paperwork.

For more information, visit [www.cskills.org](http://www.cskills.org).

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# A record response shows Kent voting with its taste buds

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

VOTING for the annual Taste of Kent Awards smashed all previous records in the hunt for a shortlist of 36 of Kent's finest food and drink producers.

These will now be considered for 12 categories, including Butcher/Meat Producer of the Year, Best Kentish Beer, and Best Kentish Cider or Perry, before the winners are announced at a prestigious dinner and awards ceremony in the Fairfax Hall, Leeds Castle, near Maidstone, at the end of February.

The 2009 search saw voting soar to an unprecedented 10,000, an 89 per cent increase on the year before, which in turn marked a 42 per cent surge above 2007.



**TOP TIPPLE:**  
Biddenden  
Strong Kentish  
Cider

Consumers flexed their online muscle through [www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk](http://www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk) to nominate their favourite Kentish companies and products as well as outstanding retailers, restaurants, pubs and farmers' markets.

They identified more than 680 candidates for the awards, a 50 per cent increase on 2008 overall, with seven of the 12 categories registering increases of more than 100 per cent.

The awards are now in their sixth year since origination by food and drink champions Produced in Kent and the awards' main sponsor continues to be Whitehead Monckton solicitors.

Several companies and retailers are showing great consistency, with Biddenden Vineyards, Chapel Down, Eddie Gilberts fish and chip restaurant, Godmersham Game, The Fudgery and Hartley Dyke all celebrating a third consecutive year on the shortlist.

But there is new blood too: JC Rook & Sons,



## THE SHORTLIST

### Butcher/Meat Producer of the Year

The Butcher of Brogdale, Faversham  
Godmersham Game, Canterbury  
JC Rook & Sons, Ramsgate

### Best Beer

Hopdaemon Newnham, Faversham  
Ramsgate Brewery Ramsgate  
Shepherd Neame Faversham

### Best Wine

Biddenden Ortega, Biddenden  
Biddenden Sparkling, Biddenden  
Chapel Down Sparkling Brut NV,  
Tenterden

### Best Cider or Perry

Biddenden Strong Kentish Cider,  
Biddenden  
Big Tree Cider, Hartley, Dartford  
Rough Old Wife, Blushing Old Wife,  
Canterbury

### Juice Producer of the Year

Biddenden, Biddenden  
Core Fruit Products, Canterbury  
Moor Organic, Teynham

### Local Food Retailer of the Year

The Allotment, Deal  
Hartley Dyke, Cranbrook  
Macknades, Faversham

### Seafood Retailer of the Year

Eddie Gilberts, Ramsgate  
Griggs of Hythe, Hythe  
Whitstable Crab Company, Canterbury

### Food Product of the Year

Ashmore Cheese, Cheesemakers of  
Canterbury, Faversham  
Fudge, The Fudgery, Gillingham  
Ice Cream, Simply Ice Cream, Ashford

### Food Producer of the Year

The Chai Stop, Ramsgate  
The Fudgery, Gillingham  
Simply Ice Cream, Ashford

### Restaurant of the Year

The Farmhouse, Canterbury  
Mulberry Tree, Boughton Monchelsea  
Secret Garden, Ashford

### Pub of the Year

The Chaser, Shipbourne  
The Haywain, Bramling, Canterbury  
The Plough, Faversham

### Farmers' Market of the Year

Cliftonville  
Shipbourne  
Wye



### HEAVENLY: Shipbourne farmers' market

Moor Organic Juice and Whitstable Crab Company are all first-timers.

Other highlights of the voting saw Biddenden Vineyards achieve four overall nominations across three different categories, while both The Fudgery and Simply Ice Cream picked up two separate nominations each. Produced in Kent manager Julie Monkman was delighted with the voting



### TEMPTING: Andy Evans of The Fudgery

surge. She said: "This is a truly outstanding result for the popularity of an award that is seen as the ultimate mark of food and drink excellence in the Garden of England.

"Despite the challenging economic times, Kent has voted with its taste buds. With such a dramatic rise in votes, Kent's consumers have demonstrated that outstanding local



### FULL FLAVOUR: Ashmore Cheese

food and drink quality is what really counts when they are shopping or dining out."

Now the top three shortlisted companies in each category face an agonising wait while expert judges, mystery shoppers and mystery diners select the 12 ultimate winners.

**■** MOST entrepreneurs expect their UK business to make more money in 2010, but one in 10 plan to move abroad due to the country's current tax and regulation regime.

These were two sides of research by Investec Specialist Private Bank, which interviewed business people running one or more businesses with an annual turnover of at least £1 million.

Despite the buoyancy most expected this year – only four per cent say turnover will fall – few (five per cent) expect it will be easy to borrow to boost their businesses and 25 per cent say lack of access to funds will limit their business growth.

Bank loans will be sought by 59 per cent nevertheless, even though others reported dissatisfaction with banks over the past year: only 36 per cent of these felt the terms and conditions they were offered were fair and 32 per cent claimed their banks were now charging more interest despite historically low base rates.

Dissatisfaction with the Government was also clear, with only 17 per cent saying UK taxes and legislation make it attractive to launch a new business here.

**■** BUILDING contracts in the three months to November, 2009, rose one per cent compared with the previous three-month period and were also four per cent better than at the same point in 2008.

Nevertheless, orders in the 12 months to November, 2009, fell 14 per cent against their equivalent period to November, 2008.

The industry took heart though from a mini boom in private housing orders for the three months to November – up 23 per cent – with public and housing association housing orders also rising nine per cent in the same period.

**■** CONSTRUCTION and engineering company FM Conway has achieved a prestigious accolade.

The Dartford-based firm now has silver status in the Transport for London Freight Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS), which promotes best practice among freight businesses in the capital.

FORS has developed an online benchmarking system of four performance measures – CO2 emissions, fuel use, collisions and parking and speeding fines – which links to an online system owned by the Department for Transport.

FORS members enter data on individual vehicles, enabling them to make comparisons within their own fleet – FM Conway runs more than 650 vehicles.

FM Conway's silver status places it in an elite group of just 19 businesses. Plant director Ian Gay said: "We're delighted."

**■** FURLEY Page has been voted best law firm by members of Thames Gateway Chamber of Commerce. The regional law firm has offices in Canterbury, Whitstable and Lloyds of London, as well as Chatham which serves the Thames Gateway and Medway areas.

Susan Jennings, head of corporate at Furley Page Chatham, said: "This is a nice surprise as I wasn't aware we had been nominated. Given that we have only been in Medway a short time, it's a fantastic achievement."

**■** CUPCAKE queen Donna Egan, founder of the Buttercup Cake Shop, has chosen Kent for her first shop outside London. She opened the new outlet at Bluewater, adding to her two in the capital.

Donna has been baking since she was eight and claims there is a cupcake to suit everyone and that she can spot the right 'type' for the right cake. The fledgling chain also specialises in limited edition cupcakes – a post-festive and New Year detox cupcake is among current winners.



# Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 100 years

1910

**100 YEARS AGO:** There was stalemate after three hours of football between Leyton and New Brompton in the FA Cup.

A crowd of 13,000 saw the first game in east London, with the future Gills having their goalkeeper, Bateup, to thank for keeping them in the tie during a first half controlled by the home side.

Pickett missed a chance to win it for the visitors in the second-half when he was put clean through, but he was thwarted by the keeper, while an improvised long-range effort from Mahon cannoned back off the cross bar.

The replay at Priestfield went to extra time but ended in a 2-2 draw, forcing a second replay to be held on a neutral ground – in this case, White Hart Lane.

Kent's other surviving side, Woolwich Arsenal, had a comfortable 3-0 win over Watford (who'd beaten Bromley 8-1 in the fourth qualifying round) to book their place in the second round, in front of 9,000 fans at the Manor Ground in Plumstead.



1960

**50 YEARS AGO:** The recently retired England wicket-keeper Godfrey Evans was appointed an honorary member of the MCC, having played his final Test match six months previously, alongside his former England colleague Jim Laker of Surrey.

Sammy Moore was put on standby by Gillingham ahead of their home game against Barrow.

The Gills were sweating on the fitness of top scorer Pat Terry for the Division Four game, but were otherwise expecting to name an unchanged side: Simpson, Parry, Hunt, Hannaway, Proverbs, Hughes, Smith, Bacon, Albury, Terry and Brown.

1985

**25 YEARS AGO:** Gillingham rejected a bid of £140,000 for 22-year-old striker Tony Cascarino from their Division Three rivals Derby County.

Gills boss Keith Peacock said: "It's true we received an approach from Derby, although I haven't actually spoken to their manager Arthur Cox.

"We are still in the FA Cup and going well in the league and Cas is vital to our success. I can only reiterate he is staying with us."

Kent County Cricket Club announced the installation of 1,000 plastic 'tip-up' seats (pictured) at St Lawrence.

If you have any fascinating stories from the above years gone by, email them to our sports editor at [glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk)

# Susie at the double

By DAVID PRITCHARD

**WHAT** do Dennis Compton, Ian Botham and Geoff Hurst all have in common with Kent's Susie Rowe?

All four are members of an exclusive club who have risen up the ranks to compete at a high level in more than one sport.

In previous eras when sport was less commercially driven, the achievement was not unheard of, with talented athletes often able to focus on one discipline in the summer and another in the winter.

But the modern demands of professional sport are significantly higher, which makes Rowe's feats with the Kent women's cricket team and Canterbury ladies' hockey, all the more impressive.

The 22-year-old admits it can be a logistical nightmare to juggle the demands of two sports, but contrary to popular belief, maintains they have complemented each other.

"It's really hard and I do wonder sometimes if I would've been better off choosing just one," she said. "All the time growing up people told me I had to pick one, but I love both sports and I don't want to give them up."

"I think hockey has been really good for my cricket game. The England management are supportive for fitness reasons and helped with me being an athlete in the field. Likewise with the hockey, playing cricket helps me with aerial balls and bouncing balls."

Growing up in south east London, Rowe's natural talent saw her selected at county level for both sports. Hockey initially took precedence and while at Langley Park School in Beckenham, she earned call-ups for the England under-16 and under-18 squads.

A scholarship to the University of Maryland followed and Rowe went on to figure in the England under-21 side. Joining Canterbury ladies on her return just over a

## Hockey and cricket go hand in hand, says England batting ace



**COMPLEMENTARY:** Susie Rowe says hockey is good for her cricket game and vice versa

Pictures: ADY KERRY

year ago, Rowe has become an established player in the Premier Division side.

Ambitions of breaking into the senior England side remain, but in the last few months cricket has become the better bet for full international honours.

Forcing her way into the reckoning for the Kent women's side, Rowe was part of the successful line-up which won the County Championship last season.

Playing alongside Charlotte Edwards, captain of the all-conquering England side, Rowe is now focused on claiming a place in the national team.

She said: "I love playing for Kent. We're very successful and Charlotte Edwards is a fantastic captain and role model to me."

"I really enjoy playing alongside her and people like Lydia Greenway, they've helped me a lot."

"It's a really exciting time for women's cricket. It's really exciting to think I could be a part of that but those players in the team are there for a reason, so it will take a lot of hard work."

Her performances have so far earned her a place in the England Academy squad and the next big date in Rowe's already crowded diary is a potential place in the tour to India in March.

## The Gent aiming to tame ex-British champ Mutley

SCOTT 'The Gent' Woolford gets the chance to gatecrash the upper echelons of the national rankings if he beats former British welterweight champion Young Mutley in Nottingham next month.

The 26-year-old from Ramsgate takes on the ex-Lonsdale Belt holder from West Bromwich in a cross-roads battle over six rounds.

The fight comes on the back of Woolford's best win of his career when he stopped the highly-rated Scott Haywood from Derby in six rounds in November.

Woolford, who works as a painter and decorator outside the ring, is under no illusions how tough a fight it will be against the hard-punching Mutley, 33, but feels it is the kind of fight he needs to put him into title contention.

He said: "It's my hardest fight and I've heard he still has his power, but hopefully he'll underestimate me. I'm training hard and really looking forward to this opportunity."

Woolford, (10 fights, 6 wins, 1 KO, 4 defeats)

is trained by Dan Downer from Broadstairs, who has guided him to two wins since he began training him nine months ago.

Downer said it would be tough, but he fancies his man's chances against Mutley.

He said: "Although he's 33, Mutley's still a dangerous fighter and if Scott wins, he's in contention for a title shot."

"He'll have to box the fight of his life but he's the kind of boxer who does better when he's set a challenge."

"He's already in good shape and we think he's got the style to give Mutley real problems."

The fight takes place on the undercard of the British super-bantamweight title fight between champion Jason Booth and Matthew Marsh, at the Harvey Hadden Leisure Centre in Nottingham, on Friday, February 5.

Tickets are available by calling 0871 226 1508 and online at [www.frankmaloney.com](http://www.frankmaloney.com). Woolford thanked his sponsors JJ UK Nationwide Decorators and Downfast Demolition for their continued support.



**DOGFIGHT:** Scott Woolford will face former British champion Young Mutley

## Have your say

FOOTBALL fans are being asked to give their views on how the sport is run in Kent to help decide which issues take priority in the future.

Players, referees, parents and spectators are just some of the groups the Kent County Football Association (KCFA) wants to hear from in the next few weeks.

Last year's survey saw about 14,500 people give their opinions on issues ranging from the quality of facilities to the impact of the Respect programme.

The KCFA is targeting 20,000 responses as part of a national campaign aimed at developing the game at grassroots level.

The results are crucial to finding out how different aspects of the game are working on the ground, according to Keith Masters, chief executive at the KCFA (pictured).

He said: "It's important to us, although we are the governing body we need to know what our stakeholders want us to provide."

"Football is a partnership, we are at the pinnacle but we're absolutely useless without the input of people involved in the game."

Last year's survey saw respondents ask for better facilities and more coaching courses. To take part log on to [www.kentfa.com](http://www.kentfa.com) and enter a draw to win a signed England shirt or tickets to an England game at Wembley.

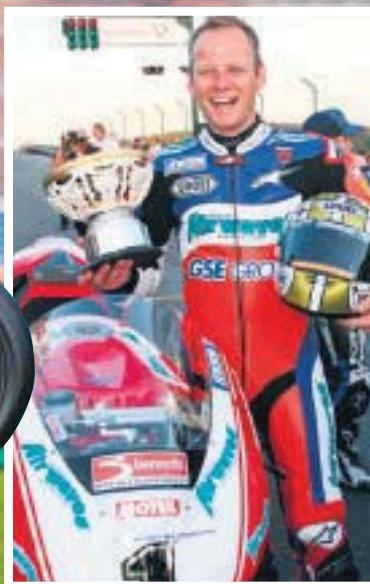




Pictures: NICK DUNCAN



SUCCESS: Shane Byrne (right) and Leon Camier (left) both won the BSB title with GSE



## End for Britain's best

### Failure to clinch backing forces GSE to close

A LACK of sponsorship has forced British superbike's most successful team out of the sport.

GSE Racing, a team established by Kent businessman Darrell Healey, have been at the top of the sport for the last 10 years, winning a record five British titles.

After title sponsor Airwaves ended a five-year-deal at the conclusion of last season, the team set themselves a deadline to find a sponsor, but have failed in their efforts which leaves them facing the prospect of at least a year or more on the sidelines.

The team, based in Ashford, has helped produce a number of the world's most renowned riders, including three-time world champion Troy Bayliss, together with British title winners Shane Byrne,

By **TOM HOWARD**

from Sheppey, and Ashford's Leon Camier.

Last year the team experienced their most successful season in the British championship after securing 23 wins from 26 races, enough to earn them the team and riders' title.

#### Substantial

Team owner Healey admitted he was disappointed not to be racing this year, but refused to rule out a possible return to the championship in 2011.

He said: "We've had a couple of offers, but nothing substantial has materialised, so we are to withdraw from the 2010 British Superbike Championship. We would like to

come back in 2011, but it would all depend on the economic climate and if we can find sponsors. I suppose you could say the team is dormant at the moment, but we would like to stay involved in motorcycle racing.

"It's a massive shame because before Christmas we had to let all but two of the team members go and some of these people had been with us for several years."

Former employee, and reigning British champion Leon Camier, believes GSE's departure is a massive loss for the sport.

He said: "There are a few top teams and they are one of them, so to lose them is a big blow. They are the most successful team and hold pretty much all the records.

"I don't know what the exact stats are, but a lot of riders have gone on to become world champion after racing with them."

Picture: ADY KERRY



GOAL RUSH: England's Natalie Seymour

## Seymour's on target for England

NATALIE Seymour played an unfamiliar role as a regular goalscorer to help England's women win promotion at the EuroHockey Indoor Nations Challenge last weekend.

The 23-year-old defender, who plays club hockey for Canterbury ladies, has never scored for the outdoor side but netted five goals in as many games at the tournament in Rouen, France.

The tally included the last two efforts in the 10-0 thrashing of Turkey in the final game, which sealed England's promotion to the second tier of European indoor competition next season.

Seymour said: "It's nice to get on the score sheet, it's not something I often do. From a personal point of view I felt it went really well and you learn a lot of new skills because indoors is so different.

"We had a really clear aim going out there, to get promotion, so it really was a case of job done and it was a really enjoyable tournament."

The men were also successful, with Chatham-born Ashley Jackson starring in their promotion campaign in Poland.

The 22-year-old was named player of the tournament after England finished top thanks to a 6-2 win against Sweden in their final game.

The result ensured they will compete in the top-flight in 2011 and also booked a return to Poznan in February next year for their first ever qualification to the Indoor World Cup.

# Teams gear up for promotion and relegation battles as business end of season approaches

AS THE rugby season enters a crucial phase, chairmen across the county turn their thoughts to promotion and relegation as the league tables start to take real shape, writes **Steve Tervet**.

For some Kent clubs, taking a step up would signify the reward for years of hard work, but for others, the prospect of promotion is a burden too heavy to bear.

Kent provides eight of the 14 teams that make up London 1 South, but the county has no representatives in National 3 London & South East, the division which links regional and national rugby.

The league title is out of reach for Thanet Wanderers this season, but another year at step six is far from a disappointment for the Broadstairs-based club.

In addition to meeting the playing standards at step five, promotion would mean round-trips of more than 250 miles to Diss, Portsmouth and Basingstoke – and Wanderers vice-chairman Simon Kemp has his reservations.

"It's something we've thought about quite a lot and I don't think we'd be ready to do it in terms of finance," he said.

"Thanet Wanderers suffers because of its geo-



UPS AND DOWNS: Gravesend (left) and Dover (middle) are fighting for promotion while Thanet Wanderers (right) are struggling with travelling

graphical position – our players play for fun and we can't force them to travel vast distances."

The two sides set to scrap it out for the London 1 South crown, Gravesend and Dover, are both prepared for life in the league above, but acknowledge the challenges ahead should they prevail.

Gravesend president Rodney Bardell said: "I



think a club of our size will manage, although it's always a concern.

"If we went up to the league beyond that [National 2 South], it would be really hard."

Dover's meteoric rise has seen them promoted in five of the last seven seasons and chairman Richard Catt says they will take a sixth in their stride.



"We would just have to deal with the cost of travelling," he said.

"There are clubs in our league who remunerate players, but that's not something we enter into. We're open with the players, they know we're not cash rich and when the recession bites again we have less to lose than other clubs."

Pictures: IGOR KUPCO/NICK DUNCAN



# Boss freshens squad as league status becomes priority

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

GILLINGHAM made a concerted move in the transfer window this week, making three signings to freshen up a squad which manager Mark Stimson felt had got too comfortable.

The club moved swiftly following a costly FA Cup defeat at Accrington Stanley, bringing in Rene Howe, Tristan Plummer and Darren Dennehy on loan.

Stanley may have been the low point of the season so far, but league form has also suffered and depending on yesterday's results, the Gills could be in the bottom four for the first time this campaign.

Stimson is desperate to avoid relegation and is hopeful adding new blood will stimulate a response from the whole squad, whose effort he has criticised in recent weeks.

He said: "I'm delighted we've got three because it's only going to help us. We need to make sure we're picking up some points to stay in this division. We all put so much effort in last year to get here, we don't want to be here for one season, we want to be here for a long time and progress."

## Permanent

The best known of the three new faces is Howe, who Stimson tried to buy from Peterborough 18 months ago.

A regular scorer, if not prolific, in his career so far, the striker arrives determined to impress and earn a permanent move to end an unhappy spell at London Road, raising the possibility of turning the loan move into a longer deal.

"I need to play. I want to do well for this club and if I do that I'm doing well for myself, that's all I'm here for," he said.

"[Peterborough] don't like me and I'm not interested in being there, I want to be somewhere I'm wanted.

"Maybe [it could be permanent] if the talk is right and I've done my stuff on the pitch and the gaffer wants it, then yeah."

The other two signings have yet to prove themselves in league football, with only limited experience so far.

Tristan Plummer and Darren Dennehy are gambles, but Stimson pointed out Matt Fry had no league experience before going on to impress earlier this season.

# Stimson brings in trio to bolster ailing Blues

## GILLS' NEW SIGNINGS

**1 RENE HOWE**  
Age: 23  
Position: Striker  
Parent club: Peterborough  
Loan stay: Until the end of the season  
Talking point: Top scorer while on loan at Morecambe last season with 12 goals

**2 TRISTAN PLUMMER**  
Age: 19  
Position: Winger  
Parent club: Bristol City  
Loan stay: One month, with potential for extension  
Talking point: Scored four goals in seven games on loan at Hereford this season

**3 DARREN DENNEHY**  
Age: 21  
Position: Centre-back  
Parent club: Cardiff City  
Loan stay: One month, with potential for extension  
Talking point: Republic of Ireland under-21 international

Pictures: ADY KERRY

Plummer played at Priestfield for England under-18s two years ago. Out of contract at Bristol City in the summer, the winger is eager to make an impact.

He said: "I just want to try and provide goals for the team, I want to try and help them away

from the relegation zone. If they extend it for the rest of the season I'd be happy."

Like Plummer, Dennehy has never made an appearance for his parent club, Championship side Cardiff City.

The centre-back admits spells like these are

a fact of life for young players at big clubs.

He said: "Every player has to do it at some time to get some experience, so I've just got to try and settle in as quickly as I can and play a few games. It's better than sitting around playing in the reserves."

## Chairman refutes 'sneaky' claim over ineligible player

MAIDSTONE United will find out tomorrow if they will be allowed back into the FA Trophy after Histon fielded an ineligible player in Tuesday's first round tie between the two sides, *writes Tom Howard*.

The tie finally went ahead this week following six postponements, with the Cambridgeshire side winning 3-0.

Controversy arose after the game due to Histon's inclusion of Jack Werndly, who had signed on loan from West Ham after the December 11 competition deadline.

Following a protest from the Stones, the Football Association will hold a hearing at Wembley Stadium on Monday to consider the case.

In the past teams have been kicked out of cup competitions for fielding an ineligible player, but Maidstone must wait and see if they are handed a reprieve.

Club chairman Paul Bowden-Brown rejected the notion the club had known about

Werndly's ineligibility before the game, insisting the Stones discovered the breach of rules after checking with the FA.

He said: "I received the team sheet at 10.40pm after the game on Tuesday and noticed the player's name, so I called the registration people at the FA the following morning to check and they told me he was ineligible.

"Being sneaky had nothing to do with it. I have plenty to do surrounding this club, especially on match days. I was just doing my job as acting secretary and making sure the game is being played by the rules. I even had to phone the FA to find out if Peter Hawkins and James Peacock were able to play or not."

The hearing will determine which club makes the trip to play Salisbury City in the second round next Saturday.

It is unclear whether the £5,000 in prize money would be awarded to the Stones if Histon are excluded from the competition.



Paul Bowden-Brown

## Daish's persistence pays off as Ashikodi joins Fleet

AS THE saying goes – if at first you don't succeed, try, try again – and the mantra appears to have worked for Ebbsfleet United manager Liam Daish, *writes Steve Tervet*.

While his side have struggled for results on the field this season, Daish has had additional difficulties attracting players to Stonebridge Road on a minimal budget.

However, this week saw the Irishman's wait to bring a new striker to the club finally reach its conclusion with the arrival of 22-year-old Moses Ashikodi, who admitted the move had come about thanks to the persistence of his new manager.

Upon arrival in north Kent on Tuesday, Ashikodi promptly made his Fleet debut and scored in the 2-1 defeat against his former side, Kettering Town, where he had netted eight goals in 18 appearances this season.

He said: "My contract was up at Kettering and there were a lot of other things going on

that I wasn't happy with. It was a great club to be at and I don't have any problems with the players or [manager] Lee Harper – the problems were at a higher level.

"Liam's been on my case, and when a manager gets on your case like that you know he really wants you.

"He's showed me some love and in the end I had no choice but to come here.

"He's been on the phone to me every single day so hopefully I can now repay the faith he's shown in me."

Ashikodi has already turned out for 11 clubs in his six-year career and he kept his options typically open when asked if his stay at Ebbsfleet would be a long one.

"We'll see at the end of the season," he said. "I just want to enjoy playing here and hopefully prevent the club from getting relegated."

"It's a big challenge for me and I will score more goals."



Striker Moses Ashikodi



# Commonwealth Games are worth their weight in gold

**T**HE Commonwealth Games in Delhi later this year provides our athletes with a chance to experience competing in the last major championships before the Olympics arrive in London in 2012.

It therefore upsets me to hear that some people have already made public their concerns about competing.

I understand the fears some athletes may have about travelling to India after the terrorist attacks there in the last few years, but I think it's far too early for any athlete to say they are not going to take part in the Commonwealth Games.

You don't know what is going to happen in the course of a year.

If an athlete was to get injured before the summer and their season is delayed, the Games in Delhi may be their last chance of salvaging something from the season.

If that's the case, then they have shot themselves in the foot by saying at this early stage they are not going to compete.

Why do that, and what's the point of putting that in the public domain? I don't think it should be written off so quickly.

I look back at my experience of the Commonwealths and remember what they did for me. The 1998 Games in Kuala Lumpur gave me an opportunity to compete, but if they were not so late in the year, as they are this season, I wouldn't have raced at all that year due to injury.

I missed the European Championships and it was only because the Commonwealth Games were there that it gave me something to focus on.

I was determined to achieve something from what was a difficult year and I came out with a silver medal. If I had said at the beginning of the year that I wasn't going to do it for whatever reason, then I would have been one medal down, and for me, medals were all that counted during my career.

The Games are a great showcase, too, for England and all things English. It's one of the few opportunities in the Olympic and Commonwealth sports where we can have pride in our national identity.

Fortunately, England has a good deal of success at the Commonwealth Games and in Melbourne in 2006, we were second on the medal table with 110 medals in all.

I think we stand a good chance of doing



In her exclusive column for KOS Media, Hildenborough's Olympic hero speaks out on the athletes who are thinking of missing the forthcoming 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi due to previous terrorist attacks, a decision that she feels many could eventually rue making...



**WINNING MENTALITY:**

Dame Kelly used her experience of competing in the Commonwealth Games when she took Olympic gold in 2004

Picture: GLADYS CHAI VON DER LAAGE

well again and it's important we capitalise on the momentum gained from our performance in Beijing.

It's all good practice ahead of the 2012 Olympics where we will be putting ourselves, as a nation, on a platform. I think key to that, however, is how our athletes are funded.

For this next decade of sport, funding has never been needed as much as it is now and without it we wouldn't have got where we did in Beijing.

It's helped the performance of sports men and women by getting the right support teams

around the athlete to help them succeed.

Athletes are in a much better position than perhaps I was, but where the funding argument perhaps lets itself down is a lot of younger people expect to get funding now rather than earning it by getting to a certain level of performance.

I do believe we should support people that show immense talent because at 2012 we are going to be judged by how many medals we get as hosts – pure and simple.

Funding is critical, but we have to make sure it's used for the right reasons and when

it comes to individuals it shouldn't be given out on a plate, for those too young, too soon.

Meanwhile, I am really looking forward to our own event in the county, the Kent School Games, which enables young people to take part in a massive multi-sport event.

I was lucky enough to launch the event in November and I will be there to see its conclusion at Maidstone Leisure Centre on June 23.

• **Dame Kelly Holmes, the county's double Olympic gold medallist, is one of KOS Media's regular sports columnists.**

• Dame Kelly has set up her charity, the Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust at [www.dkhlegacytrust.org](http://www.dkhlegacytrust.org) to inspire young people to find and fulfil their potential in sport and in life. Join the team of 'Kelly's Charity Runners' and meet Dame Kelly in person at the Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon on February 28. For more information, email [james.robison@dkhlegacytrust.org](mailto:james.robison@dkhlegacytrust.org).

## Staff gives up on world championships

A BACK injury picked up competing in October is likely to rule Olympic gold medalist Jamie Staff out of this year's World Track Cycling Championships.

The 36-year-old, who won gold at the Beijing Olympics two years ago, picked up the injury to his lower back at the National Championships in Manchester towards the end of last year, putting his involvement in the World Championships in March severely in doubt.

Staff, who now lives in Brabourne, near Ashford, has undergone physiotherapy since injury and even competed in the opening World Cup meeting of the season, also in

By **TOM HOWARD**

October, where his Team Sky trio secured gold. However, the injury hasn't improved as quickly as he would have liked and with the World Championships in Copenhagen a little more than eight weeks away, Staff is almost certain not to be fit enough to compete for a third world team sprint title.

He said: "Progress is good, but I don't think I will be ready in time for the World Championships."

"For that you need to prepare for six to eight

months. I would need to put in a lot of work and catch up for lost time, which I'm not prepared to do at this stage of my career. If I did, I could aggravate the injury."

"The British Cycling guys have been great, they have given me time to make sure I can return in the best shape possible."

"The injury has come at the wrong time for me, but it is one of those injuries which is quite common and I'd say I have got about 90 per cent movement in my lower back at the moment."

The Commonwealth Games in October could be Staff's last chance of the season to secure a major medal.



Picture: BRITISH CYCLING

**NO GO:** Staff (front) will miss Copenhagen





# GOLD SHOULD HAVE KELLY'S NAME ON IT

## Back our campaign to get 1500m medal she lost to drug cheat

TODAY we launch a bid to right a wrong – and get Dame Kelly Holmes the gold medal she still craves.

In a campaign we will take to the very top of world athletics, we want drug cheat Regina Jacobs stripped of the gold she won at the World Indoor Athletics Championships in 2003. She pipped our Kelly into second place – but just weeks later was exposed as a drug cheat; testing positive for steroids.

Now KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper, is launching a bid to win our local heroine the title we feel should now be rightfully hers.

Holmes, who won two gold medals at the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004, was beaten into second place at the indoor 1500m event in Birmingham in March, 2003, by Jacobs.

But Jacobs later failed a drugs test after winning at the US Championships in June.

She was handed a four-year ban, but aged 40 at the time, decided to call time on her career. Jacobs, who has always protested her innocence, was stripped of the national title, but because the World Indoors preceded the failed test, the result in Birmingham still stands.

KOS Media is now urging the sport's governing body – the International Association of Athletics Federations – to review this decision in the light of a recent case in which Great Britain's 1997 4x400m relay team were awarded the World title after finishing second to a US team which included Antonio Pettigrew.

He admitted using banned substances at the time and consequently, the GB team found out this month they will get their gold medals after the four athletes began a campaign in 2008.

### Caught

Holmes, from Hildenborough, near Tonbridge, admits the defeat to an athlete who was later found to be using performance enhancing drugs, still rankles.

"I think [the medal] should be taken away from that athlete if they have been done for drugs," she said. "If they have been caught in that year of competition, well they actually didn't just get caught doing it right there and then did they? It was before that.

"[Regina Jacobs] was somebody who was banned that season and yet she wasn't stripped of the gold medal she won in March of that year and I think that's wrong.

"If you have been banned, give back the medal from that year. She got caught and banned and there's a logic to say that, okay, she got caught in June it's more than likely she was using it in March as well. So then give back the medals, not so much mine, but they should be given back as a general rule."



Picture: GETTY IMAGES

**FOOL'S GOLD:** Kelly Holmes can barely hide her contempt as she loses the World Indoor 1500m final to Regina Jacobs in Birmingham in 2003 – Jacobs later failed a drugs test

Eyebrows had been raised six weeks prior to the Birmingham meet when Jacobs, then 39, became the first woman to run 1500 metres in under four minutes indoors, breaking a 13-year world record.

For Holmes, the World Indoor title is one accolade missing from her glittering CV.

"For me, the worst thing was that it was in Birmingham and I would have loved to have stood there as World Indoor champion, but instead I was a silver medallist which is a great achievement, but not when you have done it against a druggie at the end of the day," she said.

KOS Media will lobby the IAAF to re-examine the case and is urging readers to send in their letters of support to help the campaign.

Sports editor Glenn Pearson said: "We feel this is something that needs looking into and the record should be set straight. Dame Kelly has strong views against the use of drugs in sport and so do we.

"We urge our readers to get involved with our campaign."

• **Send letters of support to KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, TN25 6SR or by email at [sports@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:sports@kosmedia.co.uk).**

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## County set to reveal 'mystery spinner'

**EXCLUSIVE**

KENT will announce the identity of their 'mystery spinner' for the second half of the season in the next two weeks, *writes Glenn Pearson*.

The overseas spinner, who takes over from Australian Stuart Clark for the final half of the summer and will feature in the county's Twenty20 campaign, has a contract from Kent ready to sign and the deal should be completed at the beginning of February.

The county's head coach, Paul Farbrace, said: "We hope in the next two weeks to make an announcement. Everything is in place and both sides are very happy with the deal. I have spoken to the player and he has the contract with him and when the time comes he will return it."

Kent's search for additional players to

bolster their squad ahead of a return to Division One of the County Championship continues after the club missed out on their original target.

That was not fast bowler Kabir Ali, who this week ended his deal with Worcestershire a year early and signed for Hampshire, according to Farbrace, who says James Tredwell's inclusion in the England squad has now changed their thinking.

The off-spinner was included in the England squad for the Test and one-day series against Bangladesh starting next

month. It's conceivable that he will also be involved when Bangladesh and Pakistan arrive in this country during the summer, leaving Kent without their premier finger spinner.

Farbrace said the club are looking to address that and are now targeting an all-rounder, rather than just a genuine fast bowler, to fill Tredwell's berth at number eight in the Kent line-up.

"Rather than going for an out-and-out seamer, we are now looking at an all-rounder who can take their share of the bowling and score runs down the order," he said. "It's important we have people who can make a contribution with the bat and with Treddy potentially being involved with England in the summer, that's what we have got to look at."